

Hafa Adai!

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXV, Issue No. 79

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY APRIL 22, 2015

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75¢

TWO KILLINGS IN A ROW

» **Guard fatally shot inside Royal Poker in Afetnas**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER



An off-duty security guard identifies the body that was loaded on a pickup truck for transportation to a morgue as his cousin, James Patrick Deleon Guerrero, a security guard at Royal Poker who was fatally shot with a handgun by a masked man yesterday morning.

The CNMI community was rocked yesterday with the news that a security guard was fatally shot by a masked man during an attempted robbery at Royal Poker in Afetnas, just one day after police discovered the body of Ana Maria Limes who had been killed in her house in Oleai.

James Patrick Deleon Guerrero, 39, of Chalan Kanoa, was shot in the back and was found dead inside the restroom of the poker arcade, where he had tried to hide from the armed suspect yesterday morning.

The male suspect was described as a 5'6" to 5'8" tall and was

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Photo shows the house of Ana Maria Limes in Oleai, where she was found with fatal injuries to the head on Monday afternoon. Police said they have a person of interest into her killing.

Military to decide on extension of EIS review in May

By **JOEL D. PINAROC**
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REPORTER

The U.S. military will decide on the request to extend the review period for a draft environmental impact

statement on military exercises in the CNMI by May.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and members of the Legislature have asked the military top brass for a six-month extension of the review period instead of the mili-

tary's prescribed 45 days.

Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) said Craig Whelden, executive director of Marine Forces Pacific, acknowledged the request letter and has replied. "Mr. Whelden has informed [me]

that [the military] will hold off on making a decision regarding extending the comment period until after they have received input for the public hearings scheduled for next week. He noted that a decision may be forth-

coming in the first or second week of May," Demapan said.

The CNMI government requested for an extension of the draft EIS review to buy some time to review the document. It has also decided that experts outside the Commonwealth will be needed for the review.

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ASIA

More than 11,500 American and Filipino soldiers start combat drills.

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FOCUS

An Iwo Jima veteran and an Okinawa survivor wrestle with WWII's legacy.

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LIFE & STYLE

The Marianas Young Professionals hosts its first Happy Hour Launch Mixer.

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Local

HK firm to invest \$10M on Saipan construction plant

By JOEL D. PINAROC
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REPORTER

A Hong Kong construction company is planning to invest \$10 million for a batching plant and warehouse on Saipan.

Win Win Way Construction Co. has already identified an area in Lower Base to set up the batching plant and warehouse. A batching plant is used to manufacture materials used for construction projects.

Dr. Kan Hou-Sek Jim, company president and technical director of Win Win Way Construction, said the company is also looking to hire 200 personnel to man the ready-mix batching plant and warehouse.

The executive said the company is looking to hire and train locals.

He said the company has brought in heavy equipment and raw materials from Hong Kong via a chartered cargo ship,



JOEL D. PINAROC

The cargo vessel *MITO* is docked at the Port of Saipan to offload equipment and materials for Hong Kong firm Win Win Way Construction Co.

which docked at the Saipan Port on Sunday afternoon.

The ship was carrying about \$2 million to \$5 million worth of supplies and equipment.

Win Win Way Construction held a port call on Tuesday, attended by CNMI lawmakers and government officials.

Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio said Win Win Way Construction already secured a temporary permit for the plant and warehouse.

A leasing agreement between the Hong Kong company and the CNMI government is also expected to be signed, Tenorio said.

Saipan Resort Hotel construction

Win Win Way Construction Co. is the main contractor for Saipan Resort Hotel, owned by Honest Profit International, another Hong Kong firm.

With the arrival of heavy equipment via the chartered ship, Win Win Way Construction is set to start working on the foundation of the high-end hotel.

"Work on the foundation will start in May. Expected completion of the hotel is between 18 to 24 months," Elaine Kwok, contract manager of Win Win Way Construction Co. said.

In September 2014, Honest Profit International held a groundbreaking for its \$130-million, 300-room hotel in San Antonio.

The hotel is seen to help solve the lack of hotel rooms on Saipan, particularly in peak seasons when tourists flock to the island.

Honest Profit earlier said it has retained the name "Saipan Resort Hotel" for the project.

The new hotel is located immediately north of Pacific Islands Club Saipan in San Antonio. The lease is for 25 years, with an option to extend by 15 years for a total of 40 years.

Stricter policies eyed vs betel nut chewing

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Lawmakers are mulling the idea of drafting a bill that will mandate stricter policies on betel nut chewing. This comes after several members of the 19th House of Representatives attended the Oral Cancer Health Forum at the Pacific Island's Club Saipan yesterday morning, during which attendees called for legislation against betel nut chewing.

During a short interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Reps. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan), Blas Jonathan "B.J." Attao (Ind-Saipan), Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan), and Anthony Benavente (Ind-Saipan) agreed that drafting legislation against betel nut chewing might be a good proposition for the CNMI.

However, they aren't looking to ban betel nut chewing altogether. Benavente and Attao said that taxing betel nut, creating violation fees, and other policies that may be similar to Public Law 16-46 or the Smoke-Free Air Act of 2008 may help cut down on chew-

ing betel nut.

Commonwealth Cancer Association board president Lauri Ogumoro urged legislators at the forum for possible legislation that will impose an age limit to purchase betel nut.

Propst agreed with what Ogumoro said earlier at the forum.

"Anyone can go in the store and buy betel nut. You can be 5 years old and buy betel nut. There isn't any age restrictions and we're learning more and more about this and we can't pretend anymore that betel nut itself is safe because there is scientific data and all research being done on this," Propst said.

"I think the challenge is to just come out and just admit it and maybe start putting restrictions on age limit. If it is something that is in our culture that is doing so much damage to our people most especially our children, we need to start thinking more. We need to start addressing this to the public. I know it's not going to be popular, but we need more awareness on this," he added.

Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) agreed with placing an age limit on who could buy betel nut. He also cited lime.

"Nobody really knows what's in it. We don't even know if it is safe or not," he said.

Deleon Guerrero made this remark after Dr. Yvette Paulino, one of the speakers, spoke about a betel nut study in the CNMI and Guam.

Paulino said that lime itself is not a carcinogen, including the pepper leaf commonly used for betel nut chewing.

However the areca nut—commonly referred to as betel nut—is carcinogenic, she said.

In her presentation, Paulino showed that betel nut quid—betel nut mixed with lime and leaf—is carcinogenic to humans especially when mixed with tobacco.

Reps. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Vinnie Sablan (Ind-Saipan), and Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) were also present at the forum, which started at 8am and finished at 4pm.

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This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number H25MC06112, Community-Based Integrated Service Systems - Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grant.

Ex-lawmaker Juan I. Tenorio pleads not guilty

Former lawmaker Juan Iguel Tenorio pleaded not guilty on Monday to the charges that he

assaulted a male teenage driver in Marpi.

At his arraignment in Superi-

No updates yet on Mariana Resort lease, says Pete A

By JOEL D. PINAROC
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REPORTER

There is no update yet on the lease deal that Mariana Resort and Spa has with the CNMI government, according to Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio

Mariana Resort's public land lease expires on April 30, 2018, but it is pursuing a new lease with a commitment of some \$30 million in added investment

"No updates yet; they are still studying their options," Tenorio said. He declined to comment further.

Mariana Resort is one of the earliest investors to set up a hotel in the CNMI. It earlier expressed a desire to continue the 40-year lease it signed with the government, but the government has yet to grant the lease.

Tenorio said he is recommending "alternative" leasing agreements with hotels with expiring public land leases with the government.

Tenorio last month met with officials of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands to address some of the concerns of hotel investors, particularly on the leasing extensions.

One topic during the discussion, Tenorio said, is to allow the hotels to get an extension on a portion of the public land that they are leasing now. However, this alternative will entail legislative approval.

"We are looking at possibilities and there are no guaran-

tees," he said.

Another alternative he suggested is where the hotels can terminate their respective leases and apply for another long-term lease.

But again, these alternatives will need the support of the Legislature.

"The onus is not with DPL but with legislators," Tenorio said, adding that once these hotels are able to draft a lease proposal, DPL and the hotels can then consult with legislators and move from there.

The official was quick to add that these alternative leasing agreements are "exploratory" discussions.

Expiring leases

The leases of Mariana Resort and Spa, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and Kanoa Resort are close to expiring, the HANMI earlier said.

HANMI also said some of its members are holding back on making future investments on their hotels if they cannot get any assurances that their land lease agreements will be extended.

Without such an assurance, hotels whose public land leases are close to expiration say the uncertainty is putting a damper on their plans to improve amenities and raise hotel standards.

HANMI president Gloria Cavanagh said that right now there has been very little communication regarding the lease proposal that Mariana Resort and Spa turned in back in August 2014.

or Court, the 65-year-old Tenorio, through assistant public defender Michael Sato, waived the reading of the charges and waived advisement of his constitutional rights.

Tenorio pleaded not guilty to the information charging him with assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja set a status conference for June 2, 2015, at 1:30pm.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government at the hearing.

According to the charging information, Tenorio punched the teenager in the face and screamed profanities at him on April 2, 2015, on Saipan.

Police detective Jesus K. Wabul stated in his report that

a responding police officer learned that the 19-year-old male and his two female friends were followed by Tenorio from the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque to the parking lot of Marianas Trekking, where the assault happened.

The officer said the victim suffered a one-inch laceration on his nose. One female passenger of the car was crying in fear because Tenorio approached them.

The teenager told police that he was driving his car with two passengers heading to the Grotto when a white car, which was heading in the same direction, passed them out and cut in front of his vehicle at a close distance.

The female passenger got upset and flicked off Tenorio,

who was the driver of the white car. The former lawmaker then followed them to the Marianas Trekking parking lot, where he got down.

Tenorio allegedly tried to attack one of the female passengers, but the teenage driver tried to stop him. Tenorio allegedly punched the teenager in the face and tried to attack the female passenger again. As the teenager tried to stop Tenorio again, the former lawmaker punched him in the nose, causing it to bleed.

According to the police report, Tenorio also attempted to punch a local witness who tried to stop him.

When the incident occurred, Tenorio was the human resources manager for Grandvrio Resort, the former Hafadai Beach Hotel. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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PSS identifies 9 ‘urgent need’ projects for next year

The Public School System has identified some “urgent” facility projects for their schools and campuses for next fiscal year.

According to a budget presentation and breakdown of their proposed \$42 million budget to Gov. Eloy S. Inos, PSS lists about nine “urgent needs” projects.

The governor ended up proposing a PSS budget of \$36.45 million, which now sits with

the House Ways and Means Committee.

The “urgent needs” breakdown describes the replacement of Saipan Southern High School gutters, saying that existing gutters at the school need to be replaced.

A majority of gutters are corroded and will eventually have detrimental effects on classroom buildings, the chart says, adding that replacing the gutters

now will prevent additional expenses in the future.

The budget for the gutter project was proposed at \$150,000.

The second “urgent needs” project is the demolition of San Antonio Elementary School Building C, which has been condemned. According to PSS, funding is needed to demolish this building, which could pose a risk to staff and students entering the build-

ing. The building could also eventually harbor vermin or termites, for example. The budget for this was at \$20,000.

PSS lists a third “urgent needs” project, which covers water and wastewater projects not funded by the local delegation.

PSS has already been granted \$94,446.98 through Saipan Local Law 17-18. But PSS says additional funding is needed

to address remaining projects. These include plumbing and re-piping work.

The remaining projects are estimated to cost \$120,000.

PSS would also like funding for ongoing facility upgrades for code compliance and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. With funding of \$150,000, they would modernize the fire exit at Garapan Elementary School and Kagman High School, for example.

This money would also go for ongoing renovations and accommodations for ADA compliance. More projects could include electrical upgrades.

Other “urgent need” projects range from \$70,000 to \$160,000 and include maintenance of air-conditioning units and fire alarms, campus beautification and upkeep, training and equipment for maintenance staff, budget for incidentals, and funding for aluminum doors and windows. **(Dennis B. Chan)**

CDA clarifies position on CUC debt

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The CNMI’s public utility must pay the Commonwealth Development Authority a deferred \$4.32 million in debt by October next year or risk management takeover. But CDA’s executive director says they don’t intend to do that.

In an interview, CDA executive director Manuel Sablan indicated they do not intend to push the issue with CUC and risk rate increases on ratepayers.

“If CUC were able to meet the payments stipulated in that [memorandum of] agreement, then there shouldn’t be any

need for the amendment [of the MOA]. As I understand it, they should be in a position to update their payments of the memorandum... If they don’t meet that payment, then obviously CDA has that right to come in and take over management at CUC or litigate, but we don’t intend to do that,” he said.

To pay this debt, CUC aims to renew a .021 per kilowatt-hour surcharge on its customers. This, however, is not expected to be an added burden on power bills. The charge expires May 1.

If the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission approves this petition, which CUC

expects to file near end of this month, the charge will be re-titled a “debt service surcharge.”

Sablan said if this prospect plays through, the agencies are “home free.”

“There is a prospect for us to bring their account current. And if they are current then we are home free and that it will not trigger a rate increase,” Sablan said.

“At the same time, we indicated to them that if we cannot do it, then we are prepared to work out further deferral payment,” he added.

The debt stretches decades back to 1985, when CDA loaned CUC \$200 million from a federal grant pledge agreement they received so CUC could build its infrastructure. CUC hasn’t

paid much back. A legal battle in 2001 over the money was resolved in a memorandum of agreement the next year, which was revised in 2004 to turn that debt into equity for CDA.

In 2009, the agreement was executed effectively turning that total debt of about \$200 million and the total interest debt of \$138,672 into equity, or \$45 million in preferred stock held by CDA.

CUC’s dividend payment was set at 2 percent, or \$900,000 a year of that amount. The deferred payment of three years is amortized over 15 years, for \$180,000 a year.

In total, CUC has to pay \$1.08 million to CDA per year, after paying off the deferred \$4.32 million by October next year.

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

A proposed bill seeks to remove the \$15 disconnection fee that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. charges customers.

Aside from removing the disconnection notice fee, Rep. Francis Taimanao (Ind-Saipan) said House Bill 19-51 also seeks to extend the grace period of 21 days to 30 days for CUC customers to pay their outstanding balances.

Taimanao said his proposed bill seeks to help CNMI residents who are dependent on government welfare and assistance programs.

“Many residents are dependent on benefits. And if their checks are not received on time, they are often disconnected,” Taimanao said.

He wondered why CUC still charges a disconnection notice when some residents are already struggling financially.

Taimanao said has personally

consulted with residents who are having a difficult time reconciling their finances.

The lawmaker said H.B. 19-51 also seeks to help those who are members of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, headed by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

LIHEAP is a program involving the CUC and DCCA, Taimanao said, where the DCCA shoulders part of the electricity bill of the members of the program.

Taimanao said LIHEAP clients, who are obligated to pay only a certain portion of their electricity bill, are still being burdened by the CUC to pay the full amount because LIHEAP is sometimes unable to remit on time.

“Changes must be implemented in order to protect the LIHEAP clients from any disconnection that is not their fault,” the proposed bill noted.

KILLINGS

From Page 1

wearing a black mask that covered his face and a pair of military fatigue and gloves.

Limes, 52, a former staff assistant of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), meanwhile was found dead inside her house on Monday shortly after noon.

As of yesterday, no one had been arrested yet in both cases, but police disclosed yesterday that they have a person of interest in Limes’ murder.

Although two double homicide cases have already happened on Saipan, Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero said it’s his first time to encounter two homicides in a row in the CNMI. He also disclosed that the security guard victim was his first cousin.

In a press briefing yesterday, Deleon Guerrero said police responded at 5:47am yesterday to a shooting incident at Royal Poker, which is located on the ground floor of a two-story building at the corner of Beach Road, San Antonio and Afetnas Road.

Police discovered the body of the security guard, identified as James Patrick Deleon Guerrero, in the bathroom of the poker arcade.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the arcade’s female cashier saw the masked suspect walk in and fire a handgun at Deleon Guerrero.

Deleon Guerrero ran toward the bathroom, while the cashier hid under the booth.

Two more shots were fired,

then the suspect abruptly fled the scene. Police officers were then contacted.

DPS Commissioner Deleon Guerrero said he has no information yet whether the suspect got any money from Royal Poker.

Deleon Guerrero said they have no person of interest in this case as the investigation is ongoing.

The commissioner said Guam chief medical examiner Aurelio Espinola, who was about to leave for Guam, was summoned to the scene where he pronounced the victim dead.

Espinola was on island because he conducted the autopsy on Limes on Monday night.

DPS acting spokesman Jason Tarkong said a review of the surveillance footage and witness’ account showed that it appeared to be an attempted robbery.

Before crime scene detectives removed Deleon Guerrero body from Royal Poker at 9:35am and transported it to the Commonwealth Health Center’s morgue, investigators summoned a male security guard, who identified the body as Deleon Guerrero, his cousin.

“We grew up together,” the teary-eyed cousin told *Saipan Tribune*. He was very quiet as he watched a pickup truck loaded with the victim’s body leave the scene on its way to the Commonwealth Health Center’s morgue.

The cousin said Deleon Guerrero just started work as a security guard less than a year ago. He said it was he who encouraged him to work with their company.

Deleon Guerrero used to cut

grass and mow lawns for a living. His son and common-law wife were in Guam yesterday to visit her ailing mother.

The cousin said he immediately responded upon receiving a call about the incident.

He learned that the suspect shot the floor in the cashier’s booth, where the female cashier ducked.

He said the victim ran to the restroom and locked it, but the suspect possibly shot the door as he saw bullet holes in it.

Deleon Guerrero’s duty at Royal Poker that day was from 12am to 6am.

Royal Poker is located on the ground floor of a two-story building beside the former Labor and Immigration offices.

Family members started to arrive at the scene at 8:50am.

A woman who said she is Deleon Guerrero’s cousin described him as a hardworking person who has a lot of friends.

“I just saw him yesterday. He’s very helpful,” she said, adding that she could not believe that any person could do that to him.

She said her mother is like a mother to Deleon Guerrero when his own parents passed away many years ago. She said her mother was unhappy when the victim decided to work as a security guard because it’s a very dangerous job.

Limes homicide

In the first homicide case, police said the DPS 911 dispatch received a call on Monday at 12:12pm of a suspicious bloody room at the residence of Ana Maria Limes in San Jose or Oleai Village.

Patrol officers were dispatched and discovered a body of a woman at the entrance to the residence’s front living room door.

Fire/medics responded to the scene.

The victim showed signs of having been deceased for some time already, with fatal injuries to the head. The victim was later identified as Limes, 52.

There was information that an ax was used in the killing, but Commissioner Deleon Guerrero would not comment on the matter of the weapon.

Sources said Limes just married Syl Sablan two weeks ago.

The commissioner said they are not releasing any information with regards to the husband.

Sources said Sablan was arrested on Saturday for disturbing the peace.

A relative of Limes said they believe that Limes was killed either on Friday or Saturday. The relative described the victim as “a very nice person.”

Limes was a regular cultural dance performer at the annual Flame Tree Arts Festival.

Commissioner Deleon Guerrero said the past 24 hours have been an extremely busy period for the men and women of DPS.

“The full resources of the CNMI DPS have been put to bear with the outmost intention of resolving these incidents,” he said.

The commissioner encouraged all members of the community with information about the incidents to contact the DPS Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation at 664-9042 or 234-7272, if they wish to remain anonymous.

MILITARY

From Page 1

More funding

The proposed funding for a review of a draft EIS on proposed U.S. military activities has reached \$400,000.

This, after members of the Tinian and Aguigan Legislative Delegation adopted a resolution on Tuesday allocating \$50,000 to the office of Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas to fund a review of the draft EIS for his municipality.

Earlier, Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) said the Senate is working on a \$75,000 funding for Northern Islands Mayor Jerome Aldan for the same purpose.

Igisomar said he and his colleagues are looking at hiring an expert from Guam to conduct the review.

The proposed funding for Tinian and the Northern Islands is separate from a \$275,000 federal funding for the Inos administration that will come from the Department of the Interior, through the Office of Insular Affairs.

The Inos administration has already issued a request for proposals for a third party consultant—with advisory functions—to analyze the draft EIS.

It is unclear if there will be a

coordinated review of the draft EIS between the Governor’s Office and the mayors of Tinian and the Northern Islands.

Advisory consultant

One of the primary goals of the advisory consultant is to also “ensure that the Office of the Governor is well versed on the relevance of the DEIS and has a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of how the Department of Defense proposed action impacts the CNMI, including the direct and indirect impacts, especially those that are less obvious and potentially harmful over the long term operation of live-firing (high explosives) training ranges.”

The advisory consultant is also expected to ensure and enable the Office of the Governor “to make informed decisions on behalf of the CNMI.”

The consultant is expected to provide a “reasonable analysis” of the draft EIS and provide counsel and recommendations.

“We understand this is a complex and lengthy document that requires expert review. With this RFP, we are reaching out to potential experts in this technical field,” Inos, in a statement said.

The government has set May 6 as the deadline for anyone to respond to the RFP. It has also put up advertisements for the RFPs on April 17 and April 24.

August start eyed for NCD Survey in the Commonwealth

A surveillance survey that will seek to measure the prevalence of non-communicable diseases in the Commonwealth is being eyed for implementation in August, according to a Division of Public Health official yesterday.

Becky Robles, administrator of the Division of Public Health-NCD Bureau, said it will be a population-based survey that will result in better and accurate data on the adult prevalence base rates for high blood pressure, high blood sugar, and body mass index or BMI.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and its subsidiary division, DPH, along with the soon-to-be revived NCD Task Force and the NCD Alliance, will conduct the survey.

"This will help CHCC-DPH so we will then be able to say that this is that percentage of the population we've come up with for better programs to be imple-

mented in addressing a more effective way for this issue," Robles said.

The survey also aims to garner more accurate statistics that is highly needed for the Pacific region because the CNMI lacks the numbers it needs to guide policy decisions governing health issues. Much of the current data are from four or more years ago or different organizations have different numbers.

Dr. Daniel Lamar, CHCC Medical Director for Public Health, said an NCD Task Force would soon be created.

"It is in the works and it will work with us and the NCD Alliance to make the survey possible," Lamar said.

"This survey will help us know what we're starting from and from there, we can implement plans on ways to address this problem to see if it will have any impact on future sur-

veys," he added.

Robles said they will also be working with the CNMI Department of Commerce in implementing the CNMI Behavioral Health Survey.

These surveys will be entirely for the CNMI. The NCD survey itself will have roughly 60 questions and will be asso-

ciated with the CNMI Behavioral Health Survey.

In addition to these surveys, CHCC will also be looking at behavioral risk factors as a part of the survey. Behavioral risks factors are those that contribute to NCDs such as tobacco use, alcohol use, drug use, etc.

The NCD survey will be a

combination survey similar to the World Health Organization's STEP survey and the Behavioral Risk Factor Survey.

"Because those standalone surveys focuses on the U.S and WHO's STEP is more regional and worldwide, we can bring those together to be most effective in the Pacific. This will help us compare our data with other Pacific entities and see where

we are in relation and begin working together regionally," Robles said.

Funding for these surveys is from \$85,000 to \$100,000, according to Robles and Lamar. The funding will come through partnerships with the Northern Marianas College, WHO, and other existing grants within DPH's budget. *(Jayson Camacho)*

IN ONGOING JURY TRIAL ON ROTA OF EX-ROTA OFFICIAL

Rapadas calls lead case investigator, 2 others

The prosecution called to the witness stand yesterday the lead case investigator and two other witnesses in the ongoing jury trial of former Rota Finance Procurement and Supply acting administrator Tilford S. Toves at the Superior Court on Rota.

Saipan Tribune learned that Chief Prosecutor Leonardo Rapadas presented as witnesses an

anas College and Department of Public Safety Rota police detective and case investigator Francis Manglona.

The prosecution's last witness for the day was Saipan police officer Paul Ogumoro, who is assigned to the Drug Enforcement Administration.

After Ogumoro completed his testimony at 6:30pm, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who is presiding over the trial, sent

home the jurors and ordered them to return to court today, Wednesday, at 8:15am, for the continuation of the proceedings.

The trial resumed yesterday despite the air-conditioning unit still not working.

Saipan Tribune learned that the jurors, court staff, Camacho, and the lawyers continued to suffer from the heat.

Assistant public defender Mathew Meyer is counsel for

Toves.

The jury will decide as to the charge of conspiracy to commit trafficking of a controlled substance. Camacho will decide the charges of attempted illegal possession of a controlled substance, and illegal use of a government vehicle.

Police officers arrested Toves and then-Commonwealth Health Center administrative staff Berlanda C. Flawau in June 2014 for alleged "ice" trafficking on Rota.

Officers allegedly seized \$1,000 worth of "ice" during the operation. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Early Signs of Autism Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Red flags to watch for from birth to age 3

Social

Children with autism may:

- Not share warm, joyful facial expressions, such as smiles by 6 months
- Not babble and coo by 12 months
- Not respond to their name by 12 months
- Use few or no gestures (e.g., does not wave goodbye, point, etc.) by 12 months
- Not play "pretend" games (pretend to "feed" a doll) by 18 months
- Avoid eye contact
- Avoid other people and prefer to play alone
- Prefer not to be held or cuddled
- Have delayed speech and language skills.

Behavioral

Children with autism may:

- Be very organized (e.g., line up toys or other objects)
- Get upset by minor changes
- Have odd movement patterns (e.g., flaps hands, rocks body, or spins self in circles)
- Have frequent temper tantrums
- Be overly active
- Purposely hurt themselves
- Repeat words or actions over and over
- Look at objects from unusual angles.

Other areas

Children with autism often:

- Are overly sensitive to touch, sounds, taste or smells
- Lack fear in dangerous situations
- Have an intense need for routines
- Have learning difficulties
- Lose skills they once had (for instance, stop saying words they were using).

If you have concerns about your child's development, contact your baby's doctor or call the Children's Developmental Assistance Center at **664-4841** for a free developmental screening.

Children with autism can learn, grow and succeed.

Early action is the key!



Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early. Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.

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2013 Nissan Rogue Select 2WD STOCK #DW026985 \$20,995	2013 Kia Sportage EX 2WD STOCK #D7429933 \$21,995	2011 Ford Ranger Sport 4WD STOCK #BPA62697 Mileage: 15K \$21,995
2010 Nissan Maxima SV Sport STOCK #AC802050 Mileage: 60K \$23,995	2013 Ford Taurus SEL STOCK #DG151392 Mileage: 16K \$27,995	2013 Nissan Pathfinder SV 4WD STOCK #DC600972 Mileage: 33K \$29,995

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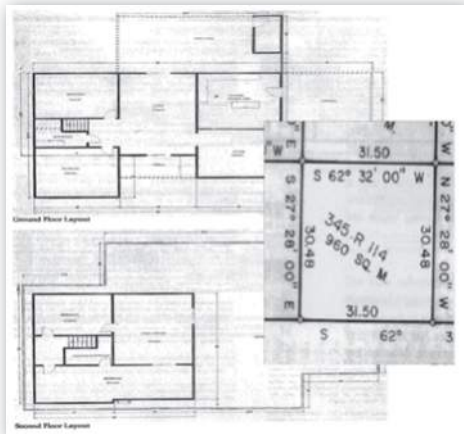


NOTICE OF SALE

The Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) hereby gives notice that it is seeking interested buyers, bids and proposals for the fee simple purchase or the leasing of its foreclosed property located in Sinapalo, Rota. Asking price is \$150,000. Deadline to submit offers is Thursday, April 30, 2015. Award will be based on best offer.



2 storey concrete house; 2,865 sq. ft. dwelling area in Sinapalo, Rota



Please call our office on Rota at 532-9408 or Saipan at 234-6245 ext. 306 or 310 for more information on the property and to inquire about our Fee Simple Purchase and Ground Lease Option to Purchase Programs or check our website at www.developcnmi.com.

‘Alternative Zero’ hopes to share fourth option not included in EIS

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sometimes, the best option is no option. This is what “Alternative Zero,” a local group concerned about proposed live-fire training in Tinian and Pagan, hopes to get across.

In an interview, one of the group’s leaders Pete Perez, and member of the now reactivated Paganwatch, said, “Alternative Zero is designed to

bring the truth out.”

The U.S. military has been working on the draft environmental impact statement for the live-fire training for years. The impact statement details three “alternatives” for the proposed training. Three public hearings are set next week.

Perez said the conversation now should not be about mitigation, but should be about “what do we want to do with our land?”

Ocean Vista QC application awaits CDA action

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Ocean Vista Resort’s qualifying certificate application was neither passed nor rejected when it went to a vote before the Commonwealth Development Authority board last Saturday, according to CDA executive director Manuel Sablan.

Ocean Vista Resort proposes to build a reported \$46-million, 144-room hotel on Capital Hill. In applying for a qualifying certificate, they have asked for 100 percent developer infrastructure tax abatement during their construction period, 100 percent abatement for business gross revenue, alcoholic beverage and excise taxes for 25 years, and 100 percent rebate on its income tax.

The CDA board is required to act on the application by a certain time. This deadline is May 2, according to CDA. If there is no action by the CDA board on the package, then it goes automatically to Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

In an interview yesterday, CDA executive director Manuel Sablan explained that three board members voted in fa-

vor of the application, one abstained, and one said no.

Because of this, the motion did not pass, Sablan said, noting there were also not enough votes to reject the application.

For the application to be approved, five board directors have to vote either yes or no. The board is composed of seven.

“We have until May 2nd. If there is no quorum, no decision by the CDA board to either approve the application with modifications, then the entire package goes to the governor after May 2 for his disposition,” Sablan clarified.

CDA recommended an application with modifications, or “with certain conditions,” Sablan said, disclosing these could be community contributions “in varying amounts and varying terms” for example.

CDA and the local tax office have assessed the application, he said. “These recommendations have been discussed,” he said.

The conditions focus on employment and local procurement, he said, noting that the statute for the qualifying certificate was created to promote economic development.

PDM Promoters, partners extol success of 8th Awaodori Festival

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 8th Awaodori Festival last Friday evening enjoyed a large turnout, prompting Paseo de Marianas Promoters, Inc. and organizers to declare the annual Japanese street dancing performance a success.

Presented by the non-profit group PDM Promoters, Inc., the annual festival featured more than 30 members of the Saipan Awaodori Team performing alongside over 10 Awaodori dancers from the Tokyo Tensui- ren, Aoeshin-Ren, and Benkei-Ren groups from Japan.

They kicked off their performance at the Fiesta Resort and Spa followed by a three-stage dance performance at PDM.

The group showcased choreographed street dances accompanied by music from traditional Japanese instruments, to the delight of visitors and community members.

PDM Promoters coordinator Sonia Siwa said the turnout was very good.

“It was successful. We had a lot of guests attend to watch the performers and the other performances during the festival,” Siwa said.

Aside from the Awaodori dancers, CNMI Do Matsuri Group and a ukulele performance by Larry Lee and Mike Johnson wowed the crowd made up by tourists and members of the local community.

A raffle drawing was also held, to the delight of everyone who attended the program.

The Awaodori groups performed as well in front of hundreds of community members and visitors at the Garapan Street Market last Thursday.

The Saipan Awaodori Festival is a platform for cultural exchange between the two island nations in the Pacific. It promotes the tourism industry and tourism-related activities not only to potential Japanese visitors but also to the Saipan Awaodori dancers as they participate not only in dancing but also in conducting monthly cleanups in the Garapan area.

“The question is do we want to change our society? Alternative Zero tells our story. What the people want our community to be,” he said.

“We don’t even have to talk about the [impact statement]. We should be able to say thanks...but no thank you,” he said.

Perez said the group will set up tents outside the public hearings an hour before and hour after the hearings.

His message to the public is to “show up” at the hearings.

“Just show up. Come into the tents. Enjoy the company. See what the military has to say,” he said.

“This is our home. We just need to talk to each other and make sure we shout out with one strong voice, ‘No.’”

He said the only way the military will win is if the public remains quiet.

Those interested in making financial contributions to the group can head to Rosal Zest, a print company, on Monsignor Guerrero Road near Atkins Kroll, or buy 50 bumper stickers and distribute them.

DPS rules death of woman on Rota a suicide

The Department of Public Safety has ruled that the death of a woman on Rota last week appears to be a suicide incident and not a homicide.

DPS Commissioner James C. DeLeon Guerrero said yesterday that investigators on Saipan have been working closely with the officers on Rota regarding the investigation into the death of Rose S. Pangelinan.

DeLeon Guerrero said suicides are normally incidents that they do not talk a whole lot about as they don’t wish individuals who have suicidal thoughts to actually take their own lives.

DPS acting spokesman Jason Tarkong said police officers responded on Thursday to a house in Sinapalo II on Rota, where a woman was found with no pulse and not breathing.

Tarkong said medics responded to the scene and attempted to revive the woman, but were unsuccessful.

The woman, identified as Pangelinan, was transported to the Rota Health Center, where a nurse practitioner pronounced her dead.

Tarkong said like any case that is not a natural death, they treat the matter like a homicide.

He said over a couple of days, he contacted the Rota DPS resident director and a detective of the case, who confirmed that based on their preliminary and secondary investigations, Pangelinan’s case was re-classified as a suicide.

Asked if there was an autopsy conducted, Tarkong said he is not aware of it and that he will confirm it later.

Family members earlier urged police to look into Pangelinan’s death. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-016

WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for Water Meter Installation in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of removal/replacement of failed and non-functioning water meters on the CUC water system, installing meters for customers who do not currently have a water meter on their service line, and relocating water meters to the right-of-way. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

This project is funded by the USEPA and the US Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Water & Energy Efficiency grant.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-15-016, Water Meter Installation, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 20, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 4, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Junior Engineer – via email nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, Jr.
Purchasing Officer

8th Awaodori Festival

PHOTOS BY JAYSON CAMACHO



Guam Navy firefighters recognized for achievements



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Master Sgt. Crispin Pacificar, Andersen Air Force Base assistant fire chief of HAZMAT and safety, stands next to a Joint Region Marianas fire truck at the base April 14.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Andersen Air Force Base firefighter Chris Cruz dons his gear at the base fire station April 14.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Andersen Air Force Base Chief of Fire Prevention Ernest Rios looks over plans in his office at the base fire station April 14.

ASAN, Guam—Three Joint Region Marianas fire and emergency services personnel competed for the Commander, Navy Installations Command FES award and received recognition in their respective categories.

Andersen Air Force Base FES Fire Prevention Chief Ernest Rios, Assistant Fire Chief of HAZMAT, Safety Master

Sgt. Crispin Pacificar, and Firefighter Christopher Cruz were named runners-up as the Navy Fire Inspector of the Year, Navy Military Fire Officer of the Year and Navy Civilian Firefighter of the year, respectively.

"These nominations are a reflection of our whole team," Cruz said. "In the fire department we are a team, we're

a family and no one does it on their own. I am very happy to represent the department and to be the runner-up for the Navy."

Pacificar shared Cruz's sentiments and said although the nomination was unexpected, he was honored to have been recommended for the award.

"I didn't believe it at first, but it is

amazing," he said. "For me this job isn't about recognition, it's doing what you love to do and I love it."

Rios, Cruz, and Pacificar competed with more than 4,000 FES personnel for the awards Navy-wide.

AAFB Fire Chief John Thompson said he nominated the three individuals because of their outstanding work performance and contributions to the base and region.

"I have always been a big fan of recognition programs," he said. "I feel it is important, an integral part of our job as

senior leaders within the fire department to recognize the efforts of our superstars."

JRM Regional Fire Chief Cort Jamison said he takes great pride in the recognition of FES personnel as they perform complex duties in a high-demand environment.

"They are all consummate professionals who demonstrate excellence in all aspects of their duties while setting new standards for professional performance," he said. "I'm very proud of each and every one of them." (*Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office*)

Consulate issues invite for a tour of the Philippines

The Philippine Consulate General is inviting the residents of Guam, CNMI, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau to join the 10th Ambassador, Consuls General and Tourism Directors Tour to the Philippines from July 6 to 9, 2015.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of this program and the basic tour package will, for the first time, include both Manila and Cebu. The Department of Tourism has designed the program to

provide guests with insights on Philippine culture, history and lifestyle. The program opens and closes with lively gala dinners featuring live music and ballroom dancing.

The basic tour package for 2015 is priced at \$898 per participant, inclusive of round trip (return) domestic airfare between Manila and Cebu, and accommodations (double-occupancy) for five days and four nights at the Sofitel Phil-

ippine Plaza (in Manila) and the Radisson Blu Hotel (in Cebu).

Limited seats for up to 30 participants have been arranged with Philippine Airlines for round trip (return) airfare between Guam and Manila (valid for up to 14-day stay) for only \$457.79 per passenger. You may also opt to book your own Guam-Manila-Guam flight as you please.

Registration for the 10th ACGTDT is ongoing up to May 15, 2015, and it

is advisable to make your reservations as early as possible. A non-refundable deposit of \$200 is required upon submission of the registration form. The deadline for the full payment of the tour package is on June 5, 2015. Tour itinerary and registration form are available at the Philippine Consulate General.

Interested participants may note that after the ACGTDT basic tour, they may also avail of post-tour packages to pre-

mier destinations outside Manila, such as Aklan, Boracay, Puerto Princesa, Bohol, Dumaguete, and Davao. These optional packages are at additional expense for the participant.

It is hoped that you would consider joining us for the 10th ACGTDT and help the Consulate General break the record for total number of Guam participants. Direct any further inquiries that you may have to Mildred C. Sayurin at telephone number +1 671 646 4620 or 588 5507, or via email at cultural.pcgagana@gmail.com. (*PCG Agana*)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 22, 2010

Man in spoon stabbing told to undergo psychiatric treatment

A man accused of trying to stab his relative with a spoon because he was hungry has been ordered to undergo psychiatric treatment. Jack Petrus, 25, signed a plea agreement with the government, pleading guilty to disturbing the peace. Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman accepted Petrus' guilty plea and sentenced him to six months' in prison, all suspended except for the time he had already served in jail. Petrus has been in jail for four months and 12 days. Wiseman placed Petrus on probation and ordered him to pay a \$25 court assessment fee and probation fees.

6 alien workers sue to collect Labor's \$136,096 award

Six alien workers have decided to sue their former employers to collect the \$134,096 in unpaid wages and unlawful deductions that the Department of Labor awarded them. Yue Min Su, Yi Pan Wu, Shi Zhong Huang, Dan Yun Li, Xue Ming Xiao, and Li Ying Guo sued S&D Corp., owner of Monte Carlo, Harvest Mart, and Everbright Mart. The plaintiffs, through counsel Joe Hill, asked the Superior Court to enforce Labor's administrative order dated May 4, 2009,

against S&D Corp. Hill asserted that by the terms of Labor's administrative order, S&D was found to be jointly liable in the full amount of the judgment.

April 22, 2005

Legislature OKs \$20M borrowing

The Legislature has approved a measure authorizing the Commonwealth Development Authority to borrow \$20 million to allow the government to give salary increases and settle the unpaid retroactive pay of government employees. The House of Representatives accepted Thursday the amendments offered by the Senate on House Bill 14-304. The bill now goes to the governor. H.B. 14-304, authored by Rep. Jesus Attao, originally wanted to allocate \$10.9 million in fiscal year 2005 to raise government employees' salaries, pay off retroactive compensation, as well as retirement and health insurance contributions. Attao said the funds would be sourced from the additional revenue identified by the Babauta administration for FY 2005.

NMC president to speak on state of college

The CNMI community will have to chance to learn about the programs, accomplishments, and current situation of the Northern Marianas College, as NMC president delivers the state of the college address on Wednesday. The address will cover Deleon Guerrero's first year as college president: initially as the acting president after the resignation of Dr. Kenneth Wright in February 2004 and then as president following his appointment by the NMC Board of Regents in July 2004. The speech will start at 10am and will be held in the Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Designed to inform

community members about the status of the college and its programs, the state of the college address will coincide with the college fair, which will feature the various course offerings and activities at NMC.

April 22, 2003

Govt aide used Senate president's vehicle in wild chase, in hot water

A government employee is facing several criminal charges for allegedly ramming his car into a former girlfriend's vehicle during a brief tail-gating incident along Middle Road Thursday. Police lodged charges of assault with a dangerous weapons, disturbing the peace, obstructing justice, and misuse of government vehicle against the suspect, Juan Mundo Santos. Allegedly reeking with alcohol, police claimed the suspect even tried to evade arrest by giving out false identity and information during preliminary investigation.

DPS cop, vehicle posted in porn site with nude model

A picture of a nude woman on a pornographic website is a given. But when that particular naked woman is shown posing beside a Department of Public Safety vehicle and flirting with the smiling policeman onboard, then it becomes a different matter altogether. So much so that Rep. Herman T. Palacios was prompted to urge DPS Commissioner Edward C. Camacho to conduct an investigation on the matter. Camacho, who did not appear surprised when shown the pictures, said he has already been made aware of this since a week-and-a-half ago and has already instructed Deputy Commissioner for Operations Sandy Tudela to lead the investigation. He expects the investigation to finish this week.

Hanergy Thin Film solar venture to start on Saipan

Hanergy Thin Film Power Group Ltd., the Chinese solar company whose stock soared sixfold the past year, agreed to set up a venture with Imperial Pacific International Holdings Ltd. to build solar plants in the Pacific.

The companies signed a memorandum of understanding for the joint venture special-purpose company to construct thin-film solar plants first on Saipan, a U.S. territory in the Northern Marianas, then other Pacific islands, Hanergy said Monday.

Besides Saipan, where Imperial Pacific is investing \$7.1 billion to build a casino resort, venues for the venture's project development plans include the Marianas, Guam, Palau, Micronesia and the Marshall Islands, according to

an e-mailed statement. Imperial Pacific has secured land-use rights for the 100-megawatt project on Saipan with a 10-megawatt first phase.

Saipan has "a power supply shortage in the local area, leading to high electricity costs,"

Lam Yat Ming, Hanergy's executive director, said Monday at a news conference in Hong Kong. The estimated payback period of the thin-film power station will be three years, the executive said.

The surge in Hanergy's

Hong Kong-listed shares have made it the most valuable solar manufacturer with a market value of HK\$288 billion (\$37 billion). Selling manufacturing lines to its parent, Beijing-based Hanergy Holding Group, was its main source of revenue in 2014 amid a push to diversify revenue.

Sales from building or selling ground-mounted or rooftop solar plants were 36 percent of Hanergy Thin Film's revenue last year. Thin-film solar cells are made with layers of photovoltaic material on such materials as glass, plastic and metal.

The venture will buy all panels required for the projects from Hanergy and prioritize supplying power generated to Imperial Pacific. Hanergy said it will also provide technical advice and help build, operate and maintain the projects. *(Bloomberg Business)*

Draft EIS public meetings notice

MARINE CORPS ACTIVITY GUAM, NCTS, Guam

The U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific on behalf of the U.S. Pacific Command, will hold a series of public meetings on Saipan and Tinian, and is requesting public input on the planning efforts and the National Environmental Policy Act, regarding the recent release of the CNMI Joint Military Training draft environmental impact statement.

The meetings on Saipan are scheduled for Wednesday, April 29, 2015, at the Saipan Southern High School cafeteria, from 5pm to 8pm, and Friday, May 1, 2015, at the Garapan Elementary School, from 5pm to 8pm. The meeting on Tinian will be on Thursday, April 30, 2015, at the Tinian Junior Senior High School cafeteria, from 5pm to 8pm.

Below is a URL to a 1-minute video with details of the public meeting process and directing the interested public to the CJMT Draft EIS website for additional information.

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/399117/cnmi-draft-eis-psa>. *(PR)*

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Belated happy second birthday to our baby boy, Ashton "Abo" T. Pangelinan. Greetings come from Mommy Shie-la, Daddy Marvin, Denzel, and Forrest.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



FRIDAY CLEANUP

McDonald's Saipan employees clean up a section of Middle Road, from the intersection of the Quartermaster Road to San Jose, as part of the company's participation in the islandwide cleanup last Friday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PaganWatch group reactivated in response to military plans

PaganWatch has been reactivated to respond to the challenge of protecting the Commonwealth's islands from the U.S. military's intention to use them as bombing ranges, according to Paganwatch founder Pete Perez.

"We have teamed with

Guardians of Gani, another local grassroots group opposed to the destruction of our beautiful islands. Together we are hosting 'Alternative Zero,' a local perspective event that will take place at the entrances to the three military Draft EIS public hearings," he said.

The public hearings are scheduled to be held on the following dates:

■ Wednesday, April 29, 2015, from 4pm to 9pm, Saipan Southern High School cafeteria

■ Thursday, April 30, 2015, from 4pm to 9pm, Tinian Junior Senior High School cafeteria

■ Friday, May 1, 2015, from 4pm to 9pm, Garapan Elementary School

"The military wants Alternative 1, Alternative 2, or Alternative 3—all variations on bombing our islands for practice. We want Alternative Zero—peaceful and productive use of our

land and waters for the benefit of the people," said Perez.

"Alternative Zero will inform the public as to the true nature of the military's intention—the realities of turning beautiful islands into bombing ranges. It will also educate people about non-destructive alternatives for Tinian and Pagan," he added. *(Saipan Tribune)*

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS PTA meeting this Wednesday

Marianas High School is reminding the parents of its students that there will be a PTA meeting this Wednesday, April 22, 2015, starting at 6pm at the Counseling office. MHS Chorale, Pep Band, Glee Club, and Chamorro Club members and their parents and guardians required to attend this meeting. *(MHS)*

Kagman High carnival, music bash this Friday

To all Kagman High School stakeholders, parents and alumni, this Friday, April 24, 2015, will be the Annual KHS Cultural Day Carnival and Music Bash celebration! From 12pm to 3pm KHS opens its doors to the public to celebrate cultural

awareness, musical talent and carnival spirit.

The Music Bash is how KHS celebrates the musical talent that abounds on this campus. Over 10 acts are lined up for this Friday.

The Carnival is our celebration of parent involvement at the school for this year's literacy events. If you attended any Partners In Print sessions and received your free tickets, come and spend them at the carnival this Friday! Kagman High invites the general public to attend. Visitors are welcome! *(KHS)*

OAG temporary relocation

The Office of the Attorney General's Criminal division has temporarily relocated to the

former Commonwealth Board of Election Office. The building is located between the CNMI Judiciary and the Multipurpose Center. Please contact the Criminal division at 237-7600 for further assistance.

CCA board meeting on April 28

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's Board of Directors will be holding its regular board of directors meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. *(CCA)*

marianas.org. *(CCA)*

OPA staff to be on Rota, Tinian

Staff of the Office of the Public Auditor will be on Rota on April 27-28, 2015, and on Tinian on April 29, 2015, to notarize and accept last-minute filings of financial disclosure statements from government officials.

Filers on Rota may visit the Rota Mayor's Office from 9am to 4:30pm on Monday, April 27, 2015, and from 9am to 11am on Tuesday, April 28, 2015.

Filers on Tinian may visit the Tinian Mayor's Office from 8:30am to 4:30pm on Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

All filers are reminded to bring with them some form of photo identification, such as a driver's license or a

passport. Failure to do so may result in the denial of notary services. *(OPA)*

Navy training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 today, April 22, from noon to 8pm. The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprised of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. *(PR)*

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXV, Issue No. 78

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

Earth Day

Whether the U.S. Congress or the United Nations gets the credit for starting Earth Day is immaterial. What matters in the Northern Mariana Islands where the pristine nature of Mother Gaia is still recognizable is whether the awareness of the day keeps bodies behaving toward mother as an organic "thou" rather than an inert "it."

The population explosion in the islands is not among members of the indigenous community whose landownership right is constitutionally protected in Article 12 of the Commonwealth Constitution. Rather, it is the swift capital influx with contract workers in tow to fund construction and administrative services.

Laidback indigenes languish on the false security of sole landownership, blindly embracing mercenary use of public land for the quick increase in revenues and fees without much consideration for long-term consequences. The military lease on land in the Marianas holds the upper hand at the planning table and no one knows exactly what DoD has in store, their environmental statement report so dense that it requires an expert to make it understandable, according to local academics.

Like the bigger picture of the planet itself, owning the land and the rights to its shoreline resources is not enough. The planet presently carry more than its sustainable load, figured at the subsistence level. Meanwhile, the industrialized nations proceed with a rapacious unsustainable use of resources it creates and protects as its prerogative.

We are not indulging in a blame game or fear mongering. We note that the interest of the local has become the domain of the global, leading Japan to create in the '80s the word "glocal" as pertaining to global systems and structures in the local. That interrelatedness is no longer an option but a given.

While we point to inequality of gains and benefits globally exacerbating the overcrowding in choice geographical locations, with a sickly planet continually violated by human intrusion into its ecological balance, we do not despair. We may bury our heads in the sand but we are clear that the planet's extremely strained support system is within our management scope. Our brains' interconnect is inevitable; we can prevail if we focus to create rather than destroy.

Efforts are being made to cut down pollution and improve air quality. Carbon emission agreed upon by countries is insufficient to stem the evolution of species assaulted by the chemical intrusion on body metabolism. Nor is it helpful that the lard seems to be more accessible of late, given the sizes of our girths, and the habit of burning fossil fuel rather than calories!

A U.S. general wrote to the Marines: "You are part of the world's most feared and trusted force. Engage your brain before you engage your weapon." So it is with the human species. We need to interrelate some seven billion human brains to ensure the survival of Mama Gaia's health before comfort overweighs gains. In our island's creative sloganeering, *Earthify, not Obesify!* Good day.

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DINERS IN THE DON'T-TAKE-IT-FOR-GRANITE STATE.

Einstein waged unceasing battle for right to a private life

April 18 marked the 60th anniversary of Albert Einstein's death. The scientific community is also celebrating this year the centennial of his masterly general theory of relativity, which described gravity more comprehensively than did Sir Isaac Newton and set off a revolution in our understanding of the universe.

Though many decades have passed, Einstein has remained an iconic figure—the very emblem of genius. His probing eyes, creased face, mop of unruly hair, and warm smile, as seen particularly in photos from his later years, express the inviting side of science. Even those who find physics enigmatic and unapproachable take comfort in the friendliness and familiarity his memory conveys.

In Einstein's lifetime, however, public treatment of him was decidedly mixed. While for some he was a prophet to be revered, to others he was a radical enemy of the state. Ironically, the suspicion with which his pacifist beliefs were viewed carried over from Germany, where anti-Semitic student protesters hounded him throughout the 1920s, to the United States, where a right-wing group known as the Woman Patriot Corporation called for his deportation.

While Einstein was fortunate to have left Germany before the start of the Nazi regime, he witnessed from abroad the assassination of his character and threats against his life and property. But over here, he met with a different kind of intimidation. Recently released FBI files show how, during the McCarthy era, the agency monitored his activities and addressed a stream of correspondence questioning his patriotism. Although clearly his fate under the Nazis would have been horrendously worse, he couldn't truly feel secure on either side of the Atlantic.

One of the most prominent threats against Einstein—an attempted assassination—took place little more than 90 years ago. On Jan. 31, 1925, Marie Dickson, a deranged Russian widow, forced her way into his Berlin apartment brandishing a weapon (according to some reports a revolver, in others a hat pin). Previously in Paris, she had threatened Soviet envoy Leonid Krassin and been jailed for three weeks before hunting down Einstein. Luckily, Elsa Einstein found a ruse to protect her husband, upstairs in his study, while she called the police and had Dickson arrested again. She was sent to an asylum.

At times, Einstein felt besieged even by those purporting to be sympathetic. Like many celebrities, he had to flee from pa-

By **PAUL HALPERN**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Paul Halpern is a University of the Sciences physics professor and the author of Einstein's Dice and Schrodinger's Cat: How Two Great Minds Battled Quantum Randomness to Create a Unified Theory of Physics. He wrote this for the Philadelphia Inquirer.



parazzi. While he had great interest in conveying his ideas, such as his repeated attempts to unify the laws of nature, he stressed that his personal matters should be off limits. When he turned 50, for example, he publicly released a new "theory of everything," and privately retreated to an estate in the Berlin suburbs to celebrate with his family. Nevertheless, a reporter tracked him down and offered the public a complete rundown of his birthday party. What could he do?

Not even Einstein's hospital stays were off limits. In 1949, he needed abdominal surgery and was operated on at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital. After the operation, he tried to leave the facility quietly via its back exit. Newspaper photographers found out, surrounded him, and tried to take his picture. He begged for them to leave him alone and ended up having to get a police escort.

Before Einstein died in 1955, he stressed that he wanted no memorial and asked that his body be cremated. Even in death, however, his expressed wishes for anonymity were violated when physician Thomas Harvey removed his brain for study. Slices of his brain have been on exhibit at various museums, including the Mutter Museum in Philadelphia. Einstein's desire simply to be left alone remained unfulfilled.

Einstein's prominence served him well in getting his ideas across and in mustering support for the social causes that he advocated. Yet due to his fame, he was forced to wage an unceasing battle for the right to a private life. His struggle raises many questions about the rights of celebrities, politicians, and other public figures to carve out corners for themselves where they are out of view of the camera.

An iconic photo of Einstein shows him sticking out his tongue, purportedly to ruin the shot. With humor, he illuminated the fight for privacy that he grappled with for much of his adult life.

‘Esta, okay, esta...’

With revenue generation heading further south, there could be more days spent parading into court to justify non-payment of utility and other court-stipulated orders or payments. Yep! We’d be meeting the same judge on different days. But the issue remains the same—failure to meet our obligations per court orders.

I figure the judge would be sympathetic at the NMI’s mountain of financial obligations is compromised by lack of new revenues or cash flow. The guys and gals would be at the court gallery to listen to court dispositions, agreeable or disagreeable they may be. The Legislature would equip its snorkel and skydiving teams to show the court that it is also working hard, searching for pennies, nickels, and dimes.

But then the judge may get exhausted seeing the same pathetic faces and insist that the NMI begin paying or someone would be meeting the new DOC head under the cover of quick orientation tour.

I could hear the boys heading out the door chiming, “Esta, okay your honor, esta...” Walking to their cars with tails tucked embarrassingly between their legs, they’d wink at one another, lamely admitting that the judge isn’t taking excuses anymore. Enough is enough! “Esta...okay your honor, esta...”

The Superior Court would be much more tolerant against forcing payment. After all, it hasn’t paid its loan with the Settlement Fund either. Yep! Let he or she without sin cast the first stone!

‘You look me...I look you’

When people speak their mind, I’d listen regardless of the lingo

So many species leave us, before we even know them

His name is Sudan. He’s 42 years old and lives in Kenya, protected 24/7 by armed guards.

Sudan is a northern white rhinoceros, the last known male of his kind in the world. Think about that. The last.

He lives with two females at a conservatory. A tiny handful of female northern white rhinos _ perhaps five _ live elsewhere in captivity. That’s it.

Which means the survival of this subspecies is up to Sudan. Who is old. With a low sperm count. And, perhaps, too weak to mount a female.

Sudan is the forlorn face of a crisis largely of our own making _ the crisis of extinction.

Earth is experiencing a mass extinction of animals and plants, the worst since the dinosaurs vanished 65 million years ago, says the Center for Biological Diversity. True, extinction is a natural phenomenon _ one to five species disappear naturally per year. But scientists estimate we’re now losing dozens of species every day, many we know nothing about.

The reasons are familiar, often interrelated and all about us humans. We cut down forests and plow prairies. We overharvest fish and mine the ocean floor. We pollute and produce devastating climate change. And we hunt.

Poaching decimated many species of rhinos, and elephants, too. The northern white rhino’s horn is prized in Asia for its supposed

used, rightly or wrongly. A quick glance into their facial expression is a tell-all. The volume of their voice is a further reflection of their sentiments. You’re lucky if the decibel level is still casually cool and conversational.

When fireworks begin spewing wildly, your best bet is to look like an innocent bystander and scam. Don’t chance looking like a scholar. You’d get nailed to your cross involuntarily. Either you scam or tell it like it is, like Magoo does all the time.

He suggested stronger use of communal sharing especially “in these bad days.” Said he, “Everybody suffering `nai. You look me...I look you”—look after one another! His mindset seems stuck in yesteryears when we could ask for some salt from the neighbor (when the island was comprised mostly of Chamorros and Carolinians) and not worry about it. These days even your next-door neighbor is from some far away land. He isn’t ready for “You look me...I look you” but look after himself.

Moreover, Magoo says that communal sharing includes food stamps from among family recipients. I could understand the culture of sharing but I wouldn’t brave what’s destined for the less fortunate members of our community. He insists, “You look me...I look you.” I respectfully disagree. Even a little salt bought with food stamps coupon is a maybe. It isn’t anywhere near “You look me...I look you.”

‘If I serious...’

Had a friend who fell in love with the conjunction “although.” He’d use it from dawn to dusk and about the only time he stops uttering the word is when he retires at night. I didn’t know one could suffer from what I’ve coined “lingovitis.”

“Although I’m going...although I’m hungry...although I’m ready...although I flunked my exam...although I don’t care about to-

medicinal properties, despite research debunking virtually all of those claims. Sudan’s horn has been removed for his protection.

What the pace of extinction says about us is disturbing. So many of our species don’t seem alarmed about our scary ability to eliminate other species. We muster protest for nature’s icons, like elephants or apes. But we shrug when an insect or plant vanishes. We’re humans, it’s our world, get out of the way. The arrogance is appalling.

Sometimes, the effects of our actions are plain to see. Take the wolves of Yellowstone National Park, hunted and poisoned to extermination in the park by 1926. Without wolves, Yellowstone’s elk population boomed, with disastrous effects. Elk are voracious grazers. The decline of vegetation led to the disappearance of songbirds and beavers. Without the ponds created by beaver dams, otters, muskrats and moose declined. So did mice, voles and pronghorn fawns, prey for the coyote that blossomed without the wolves. When the wolves were reintroduced in 1995, the damage was reversed.

Nature establishes balances we should respect. Extermination throws that out of whack. Already, scientists worry about the variety of life in Africa’s savanna grasslands, maintained in part by rhino feasting.

Just as troubling is when we don’t know what we’re losing. Literally, do ... not ... know.

Plants, for example, are a huge source of medicinal drugs for ev-

fishing boats ripped helter skelter from the quay
smashed and broken scattered along the reef
stinking fish floating out in the bay
silently pulled out by a high tidal thief
thank Neptune there are no rotting sperm whales
oil spills in shrimp and oyster beds blackening the coral
perhaps it is calm enough to hoist the foresails
time to heave away from the coastal arboreal
with more respect for and care, time, and devotion
let’s live without fear in synergy with our oceans

EARTH DAYS BEFORE WE WERE BORN

I did not see all of the thoughtless events
that lead us up to the moment where we are
but using everyday basic common sense
we don’t need to look back in the past very far
maybe a hundred years before our parents were born
we began serious pollution of the waters and the sky
as farther and farther from the Earth we were torn
few earthlings stopped to pause and wonder why
I did not hear of all the tragic man made events
that slowly diminished the quality of our daily life
yet entire countries continue on in a manner most dense
little disturbed by the Earth’s present daily strife
there is light in the darkness and clean water in the bay
as people help the Earth by celebrating Earth Day

SHALL I COMPARE YOU TO A SPRING’S DAY

Shall I compare you to an early day in Spring
your brain develops with the freshening green
Ides of March help the sudden garden mind sing
our love moves from sprouts to flower in our bean
during Spring due to bouts of new love and new rain
rivers and eyes of tears overflow their banks

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



morrow...” He inundated Planet Earth with his favorite conjunction. One day he caught me laughing of his lingovitis. He wasn’t happy for he thinks I’m making a mockery of his conjunction. Said he, “JR, watch out huh because if I serious I very serious.” I honestly couldn’t figure out how to hold back more laughter. It’s both a case of what he said and how he said it. “Watch out huh if I serious I very serious.” And I was like “And this is why I’ve spent years studying the English language?”

Sisyphus complex

The Sisyphus complex is now in full bloom. The guys and gals upstairs have tried rolling rocks up the hill then watch it roll down. In other words, they look at matters of state with a quick glance, ignore it, return, and ignore it some more. Mission accomplished!

And so ignoring a vital issue—a very sick economy—has become a commonplace. Are they really oblivious to the fiscal disaster it triggers that eventually land at the village level? Is this why the constant avoidance to buckling down to doing what’s right? Ignoring the economy that literally affects families here isn’t going to fade into history per your shallow assumptions!

By MICHAEL DOBIE

Newsday

Paul Halpern is a University of the Sciences physics professor and the author of Einstein’s Dice and Schrodinger’s Cat: How Two Great Minds Battled Quantum Randomness to Create a Unified Theory of Physics. *He wrote this for the Philadelphia Inquirer.*



everything from malaria to pain. Rainforest plants offer hope in the fight against cancer. Edible species become dietary supplements.

The non-reflective eyes of moths are inspiring designs for more efficient solar panels. Dirt from a grassy field in Maine harbored an antibiotic that killed the staph infection MRSA and drug-resistant tuberculosis in tests on mice.

Why do we snicker when environmentalists worry about developments that threaten endangered species like the tiger salamander or snail darter? Our ecosystems are complex. One extinction can lead to another. How much do you really want to kiss goodbye?

It’s an amazing world out there. We don’t even know how amazing it is yet.

You don’t know what you’ve got till it’s gone?

It’s worse when you don’t even know what’s gone.

LITERARY NOOK

Five sonnets

By JOEY ‘PEPE BATBON’ CONNOLLY
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Two sonnets here on fear, one for Earth Day the 22nd, and an appropriation of a famous Shakespearean sonnet for his birthday the 23rd. The last sonnet is for a friend and colleague, Ms. Renee Simao, who passed away last week.

(thoughts of someone with)

OMBROPHOBIA—FEAR OF RAIN

even a few cumulus clouds overhead
just the increase of humidity and a few drops
causes me to want to stay home in bed
until even the potential of rainfall stops
some fools like hearing rainfall on tin roofs
I find the noise of rain falling quite abhorrent
can’t tolerate drizzle or drops like some goofs
I completely freak out when rain becomes a torrent
so much so that thunderclouds and downpour
or even the lightest of summer sprinkles
put my fear sensors into a mighty uproar
and cover my face with nervous wrinkles
well that’s my ombrophobic situation
it starts with any kind of precipitation

(thoughts of someone with)

THALLASOPHOBIA—FEAR OF OCEANS

From the tempest a terrible torrent
overflowing the banks of every seaside stream
flotsam and jetsam mix with the current
omnipotent in my evil ocean dream

levees and lovers feel the pressure and the strain
drought stricken farms and couples give thanks
your spring shows in your lively step and your lip
as over love’s muddy ground you keep walking
in clear consciousness winter is given the slip
love takes the lead with gossip and talking
as love’s steady Spring rains melt the winter snow
my love for you takes roots and continues to grow

A sonnet in memory of Ms. Melva Renee Simao

(a Tinian school teacher who passed away last week)

Adios Ms. Simao, some called you Renee
we gather at Tinian’s Kammer Beach today
because you have passed and gone away
we’ll pause for a while and silently pray
we’ll miss you and your life’s dedication
to Tinian School students and education
you taught your students to write and to read
and to think so better lives they could lead
you came here from Alaska to Tinian School to teach
we’ll remember your lessons and laugh to the end
you stayed late grading papers not down at the beach
thank you Renee, Ms Simao, our teacher and friend
and in the future between sun rise and sun sinking
when we read and write you will be in our thinking


Written by the author, a colleague and friend of Ms. Simao, who read the sonnet at a service in her honor on April 16, 2015.

Joey “Peppe Batbon” Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲87° ▼75°


THURSDAY



Partly sunny with isolated showers.
East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼75°


FRIDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°

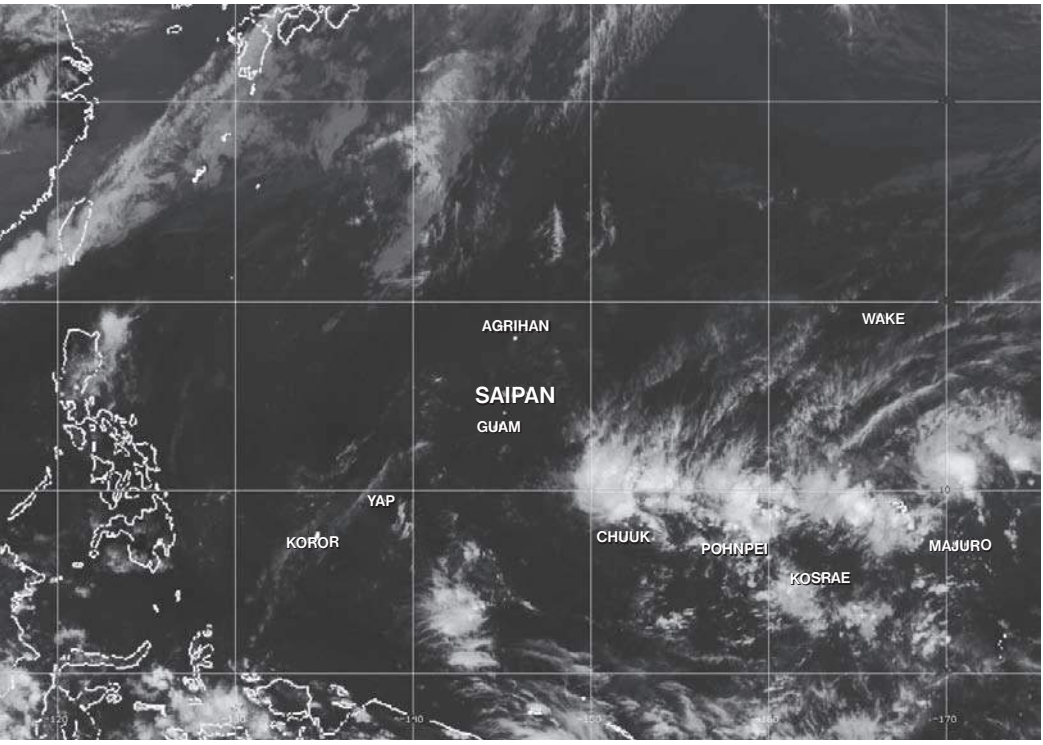
SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2015


Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from 4N130E through a weak circulation centered southwest of Pohnpei at 6N154E then turns southeastward to end at EQ160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring southeast of Yap between 1N and 4N from 141E to 144E and north of Chuuk, Pohnpei and near Kwajelein north and east of the circulation within 150 miles of a line from 10N150E to 7N168E. East of the circulation scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found south of Kosrae between 3N and 5N from 162E to 166E. A surface trough running northeastward from 4N169E to 10N171E is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Majuro between 10N and 13N from 168E to 176E. Another surface trough at the dateline is triggering scattered showers east of Majuro between 4N and 9N from 178E to the dateline.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Windy	▲86	▼90
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼79
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲81	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼83

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼57
Beijing	Sunny	▲81	▼56
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼69
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼71
London	Sunny	▲65	▼43
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼54
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲93	▼76
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼53
Miami	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼75
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼51
Osaka	Sunny	▲62	▼54
Paris	Sunny	▲72	▼54
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼46
Rome	Sunny	▲74	▼52
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼42
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲60	▼51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼41
Tokyo	Showers	▲67	▼53
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲70	▼53



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
5:18 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
10:23 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
5:36 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.3 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:00 AM	6:33 PM
Thursday	5:59 AM	6:33 PM
Friday	5:59 AM	6:33 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Sunday	5:57 AM	6:34 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	8:51 AM	9:58 PM
Thursday	9:44 AM	10:51 PM
Friday	10:37 AM	11:41 PM
Saturday	11:29 AM	
Sunday	12:19 PM	12:28 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily		
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			OZ623	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily		
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
OZ624	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily			OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			OZ704/623	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, ,3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:30pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:25pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:45pm+1	6, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	2:15pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM		
OZ624/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/5038	11:30pm	2:35pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ746/623	12:40am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5039/179	2:15pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM		
UA5078/179	3:05pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		

Business

A small victory for fliers: summer domestic fares fall \$2.01

By **SCOTT MAYEROWITZ**
AP AIRLINES WRITER

After years of steadily-rising airfare, travelers this summer can expect a tiny bit of relief—\$2.01 in savings to be exact.

The average roundtrip domestic ticket this summer, including taxes, now stands at \$454, down less than a percent from last summer. Vacationers to Europe will fare better with the average ticket down 3 percent to \$1,619, about \$50 less than last summer.

Not all travelers will get to save.

Flights to Hawaii, Florida and New Orleans are cheaper, but travelers heading to New York, Denver and San Francisco can expect to pay more.

Even in Europe, it depends on the destination. Overall fares are down but it will cost more this summer to fly to cities like Amsterdam; London; Budapest, Hungary; Lisbon, Portugal; Frankfurt, Germany or Reykjavik, Iceland.

Prices are coming down because airlines are now saving billions of dollars thanks to lower fuel prices and be-



AP
In this Tuesday, April 14, 2015 photo, travelers watch as a plane taxis at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta.

cause more seats have been crammed into planes, spreading out costs over more passengers. European economic troubles are also keeping some

seats empty as business travelers stay home.

The generally good news about fares comes in a report released Monday by the Air-

lines Reporting Corp., which processes ticket transactions for airlines and travel agencies such as Expedia, American Express and Carlson Wagonlit.

The study looks at 4.1 million tickets purchased before March 31 this year and last year for travel between Memorial Day

and Labor Day.

Airfare during the first three months of this year was also lower, down 3.7 percent domestically and 8.9 percent internationally.

Even with the moderate relief this summer, prices are still higher than just a few years ago. The average domestic roundtrip ticket is still \$13, or 3 percent, higher than it was in 2012. European trips are \$60, or 3.9 percent, more expensive.

Travelers can thank lower oil prices and more seats on planes for keeping this summer's airfare in check.

Airlines at the start of the year paid \$2.13 for each gallon of jet fuel, down 30 percent from last year's \$3.03, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. With U.S. airlines burning through 42 million gallons of fuel a day, that 90-cent savings adds up quickly: \$14.7 billion for the entire year if prices remain at these levels.

Bird flu confirmed at Iowa farm with 5.3 million chickens

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—Up to 5.3 million hens at an Iowa farm must be destroyed after the highly infectious and deadly bird flu virus was confirmed, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said Monday.

The farm in northwest Iowa's Osceola County has nearly 10 percent of the state's egg-laying hens. Iowa is home to roughly 59 million hens that lay nearly one in every five eggs consumed in the country.

Egg industry marketing experts say it's too early to predict

the impact on prices, but say it's unlikely to immediately cause a spike or a shortage, because number of chickens that are to be euthanized is a little more than 1 percent of the nation's egg layers.

"Don't panic. Let's wait and see," said poultry industry consultant Simon Shane, who also teaches poultry science and veterinary medicine at North Carolina State University. He added that if 20 million to 30 million hens are infected, consumers could start seeing prices rise.

Several Midwestern states have been affected by the outbreaks, costing turkey and chicken producers nearly 7.8 million birds since March. The virus was first detected in Minnesota, the country's top turkey-producing state, in early March and the H5N2 virus has since shown up on commercial farms in Arkansas, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. On Monday, the virus was confirmed in another turkey farm in Minnesota and a backyard flock of mixed birds in

Wisconsin.

The Osceola County farm provides shell eggs and liquid egg products to the market.

"It may not have a direct effect on shell egg pricing but any time you take production out of a marketplace there's likely to be some consequence," Iowa Poultry Association Executive Director Randy Olson said. "I anticipate the market and production will recover, but right now we're reminding people that this is not a food safety issue and it's not a human health issue."

Survey: US businesses expect sales rebound, more hiring

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. businesses expect their sales will rebound in the next three months after a sluggish first quarter, and they also plan to boost hiring and pay, according to a survey released Monday.

Just 49 percent of firms said their sales increased in the first three months of the year from last year's fourth quarter. That's down from 54 percent that reported higher sales in the last survey, in January.

Yet companies are much

more bullish about the April through June quarter. Nearly three-quarters of companies forecast higher sales over the next three months, up from 68 percent in January and just 54 percent in October.

The results suggest that weak growth in the first three months of the year may prove temporary. Harsh winter weather, labor disputes at West Coast ports that slowed shipping and a jump in the value of the dollar likely held economic growth to a 1

percent annual pace, or below, from January through March. Yet most economists expect growth to accelerate in the second quarter.

"Growth in the first quarter appears to be an outlier within the broader economic outlook," said John Silvia, chief economist at Wells Fargo.

Silvia is also president of the National Association for Business Economics, which conducted the survey covering 77 companies in the second half

of March. The companies surveyed represent a broad cross-section of industries—including manufacturing, construction, finance, hotels and restaurants—with nearly half having more than 1,000 employees and a quarter having fewer than 10.

Another sign of confidence in the economic outlook: The percentage of firms that said they raised pay in the January-March quarter soared to 45 percent, up from 31 percent in January and 35 percent a year earlier.

ESPN says Verizon's new FiOS TV packages violate agreements

NEW YORK (AP)—Breaking up the cable-TV bundle won't be easy.

ESPN is objecting to how Verizon is giving its FiOS TV customers more choice. In new plans that went into effect Sunday, Verizon made the ESPN and ESPN2 sports channels optional, but ESPN says its contracts with Verizon prohibit the channels from being in a separate sports package.

Although Verizon will still offer big bundles of channels, it has been facing pressure to reduce prices amid cheaper online options. So to target the cost-conscious, Verizon launched a FiOS plan that starts at \$55 a month for a basic tier of 35 channels plus two themed channel packs. The basic channels that everyone gets include local broadcast stations, AMC, CNN and Food Network—but not ESPN or ESPN2.

There are currently seven add-on channel packs, focusing on such genres as

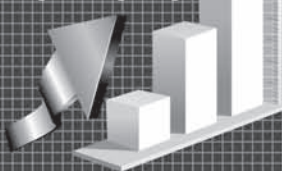
sports, where ESPN and ESPN2 are, as well as children, pop culture and news. After picking two, customers can get additional channel packs for \$10 each.

Verizon Communications Inc. did not respond to requests for comment Monday.

Media companies such as ESPN's owner, The Walt Disney Co., Time Warner Inc. and Viacom Inc. charge distributors such as Comcast, Dish and DirecTV and Verizon's FiOS for the rights to carry their channels. Those fees are typically based on how many subscribers the channels have. By making a channel optional, Verizon can keep costs down and charge only the subscribers that want it.

ESPN is by far the most expensive basic cable network for distributors, according to estimates from data provider SNL Kagan. It gets \$6.61 per average subscriber per month, compared with the No. 2, TNT, at \$1.65.

STOCK PORTFOLIO



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
18,034.93	2,100.40	4,994.60
+208.63	+19.22	+62.79
+1.17%	+19.22	+1.27%

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.2996	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7501	Philippine Peso	44.245
British Pound	0.6717	Indian Rupee	62.955	Singapore Dollar	1.3509
Canadian Dollar	1.2266	Indonesian Rupiah	12945.5	South Korean Won	1082.70
Chinese Yuan	6.202	Japanese Yen	119.4885	Swiss Franc	0.9573
Euro	0.9325	Malaysian Ringgit	3.6337	Taiwan Dollar	31.076
		New Zealand Dollar	1.3076	Thailand Baht	32.4145

In U.S. dollar terms

Nation

Baltimore on edge after arrestee's fatal spine injury

BALTIMORE (AP)—Baltimore's top police officials, mayor and prosecutor sought to calm a "community on edge" Monday while investigating how a man suffered a fatal spine injury while under arrest. Six officers have been suspended, but investigators say they still don't know how it happened.

A week after Freddie Gray was pulled off the street and into a police van, authorities don't have any videos or other evidence explaining what happened to cause the "medical emergency" an arresting officer said Gray suffered while being taken to the local police station, Deputy Commissioner Jerry Rodriguez said.

The Gray family's lawyer, Billy Murphy, had said that Gray's "spine was 80 percent severed at his neck."

Autopsy results returned Monday show that Gray "did suffer a significant spinal injury that led to his death," Rodriguez said. "What we don't know is how he suffered that injury."

Police also released a more detailed timeline of how Gray was arrested and transported on



Citizens and groups such as the Justice League of NYC protest following the death of Freddie Gray, Sunday, April 19, 2015, in Baltimore.

April 12. It revealed that Gray was placed in leg irons after an officer felt he was becoming "irate," and that the van stopped on its way to the police station, even picking up another prisoner in an unrelated case, while

Gray repeatedly asked for medical attention.

Police Commissioner Anthony Batts said that Gray asked first for an inhaler, and then several times during his transport for medical care.

"There were several times he made a medical request," Batts said. "He asked for an inhaler, and at one or two of the stops it was noticed that he was having trouble breathing and we probably should have

asked for paramedics."

Something must have happened between the time Gray was videotaped by a bystander being dragged into the van, and the time he arrived at the station in deep distress, the deputy commissioner said.

"When Mr. Gray was put in that van, he could talk, he was upset. And when he was taken out of that van, he could not talk and he could not breathe," Rodriguez said.

Batts also said it is still unclear why Gray was stopped in the first place, saying only that officers "made eye contact" with Gray and another man, and the two took off running.

"That's part of the question we have to dig into," Batts said, "if there's more than just running. There is no law against running."

Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake said she too is "angry that we are here again" after trying to overcome decades of distrust between police and citizens in Baltimore's inner city.

"Our community is experiencing a great deal of trauma," Rawlings-Blake said. "This is a very, very tense time for Baltimore City."

more City."

Batts said he is ordering that police review and rewrite "effective immediately" its policies on moving prisoners and providing them with medical attention.

"We are a community on edge right now. We hear, I hear, the outrage. I hear the concern and I hear the fear," Batts said, asking for calm. "We are on edge as a city, and I need your help to make sure we get this out in the proper way."

But Billy Murphy, an attorney representing Gray's family, said Monday that the news conference left him with more questions than answers.

"They were vague about how his spine was injured. We'll have to wait to see the autopsy that they admitted they worked closely with the medical examiner's office to develop," Murphy said. "So tell us what it says. I have even more questions than I did before. Who did it? How did they do it and why did they do it? Why all these stops? What were the police doing during those stops? What did they see?"

Clinton defends family foundation from charges of favoritism

KEENE, N.H. (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton dismissed swirling questions about her family foundation Monday as little more than political attacks from Republicans eager to gain an early advantage in the 2016 presidential contest.

Clinton, campaigning for the Democratic nomination in the liberal bastion of Keene, pushed back against accusations that foreign governments that made donations to the Clintons' charity received preferential treatment from the State Department while she served in the Obama administration.

"We will be subjected to all kinds of distractions and attacks," she told reporters after a roundtable event at a wood furniture factory. "I'm ready for that. I know that that comes, unfortunately, with the territory."

She is making her first campaign visit this year to New Hampshire, a state beloved by

the Clinton family for giving both her faltering 2008 effort and her husband's struggling 1992 campaign a second wind.

She also took issue with economic views expressed by members of her own party, offering a dark assessment of a "stalled out" U.S. recovery, a judgment at odds with President Barack Obama's brighter view of what the nation has achieved on his watch.

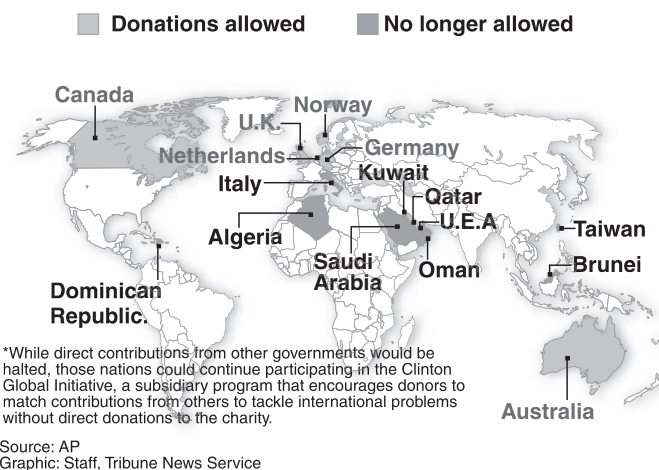
"It's not enough just to tread water," she said.

In a traditional Democratic stand, she voiced her strong support for Social Security, a program some Republicans are eager to trim back, describing it as "not a luxury" but "a necessity."

Standing in front of wooden pallets and boxes of furniture parts, Clinton was asked by reporters about Peter Schweizer's coming book, "Clinton Cash: The Untold Story of How and Why Foreign Governments and Businesses Helped Make Bill

Clinton Foundation cuts donations

The Clinton Foundation has decided that future donations will only be allowed from the governments of a select group of six nations. Clinton Foundation records from between 2001 and 2015 showed governments and agencies from 16 nations previously gave direct grants of between \$55 million and \$130 million.



and Hillary Rich." The book argues that the Clinton family got speaking fees and donations in return for favors to various foreign interests doled out while

she was secretary of state. Sen. Rand Paul, a 2016 GOP candidate, said that would make people "question whether she ought to run for president."

Where US sees terror prevention, some Muslims see profiling

MISSION VIEJO, Calif. (AP)—Sameer Mohiuddin grew more confused by the second as panelists speaking at his Southern California mosque trumpeted a new national initiative to prevent violent extremism.

Mohiuddin, 39, is an American citizen, longtime Californian and a vice president at a technology company. His wife was born and raised in Orange County, and they have three children. Why, he wondered,

do his family and others like his even figure into the conversation?

"Day in and day out we're trying to build a community, saying you're part and parcel of the American fabric. You are an American citizen. I raise my girls and say they have the same rights as others," Mohiuddin said. "The fact is, when you're going to come present a program and say it's specially geared to prevent growing extremism in the Muslim commu-

nity, you're by default saying my community is more predisposed to extremism. It sets people off."

Mohiuddin's confusion typifies what many Muslims in Southern California and across the United States have felt since the Obama administration last fall announced a program called Countering Violent Extremism—billing it as a community-driven initiative to tackle terrorism and militant recruitment by prevent-

ing radicalization from taking root—and said it was being tested in Los Angeles, Boston and Minneapolis.

Local law enforcement officials have been doing such outreach for years. But now that federal officials are putting their stamp on it, the program is creating suspicion among American Muslims and others who fear it is profiling disguised as prevention and worry it could compromise civil liberties and religious freedoms.

ACROSS THE NATION

Utah woman gets up to life in prison in deaths of 6 newborns

PROVO, Utah (AP)—A mother who killed six of her newborn babies and hid their bodies in her garage was sentenced to up to life in prison Monday at an emotional hearing in which a prosecutor depicted her as an "incredibly indifferent and callous" murderer. The judge imposed a sentence against Megan Huntsman that went beyond what was called for in a plea deal because he was so repelled by the killings. Judge Darold McDade said that he heard about the case before it came to his courtroom and hoped it wouldn't be assigned to him. Huntsman, 40, told police she was too addicted to methamphetamine to care for more children during the decade when the babies were killed. Police said she concealed her pregnancies, gave birth at home and choked and strangled the children with her own hands just minutes after they were born. She killed six babies, and a seventh body of a newborn found in her garage was found to be stillborn.

Minnesota men charged with trying to join Islamic militants

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—When Guled Ali Omar made up his mind to join the Islamic State group, authorities said, he wasn't easily deterred. The Minnesota man emptied his bank accounts last May and planned to fly to Syria via San

Diego, federal officials say, but his family confronted him and he set his plans aside. In November, officials say, he tried to board a flight in Minneapolis, but was stopped by the FBI. Even while under investigation, authorities say, Omar and five other men kept trying to make their way to Syria, coming up with a plot to secure false passports. Omar is among six Minnesota men of Somali descent charged with terrorism-related offenses in a criminal complaint unsealed Monday. They are the latest Westerners accused of traveling or attempting to travel to Syria to join the Islamic State group, which has carried out a host of attacks including beheading Americans.

Sheriff, lawyer dispute whether 73-year-old deputy qualified

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—The Tulsa County volunteer deputy who shot and killed a suspect after mistaking his handgun for a stun gun was using an unauthorized weapon when he fired the fatal shot, lawyers for the dead man's family said Monday. In separate news conferences, the county sheriff and lawyers for the man killed by 73-year-old Robert Bates disagreed on whether the reserve officer should have been on the streets with a badge and a gun. Sheriff Stanley Glanz said Bates, his longtime insurance agent, had been properly trained and passed annual firearms certifications required by the state.

Asia

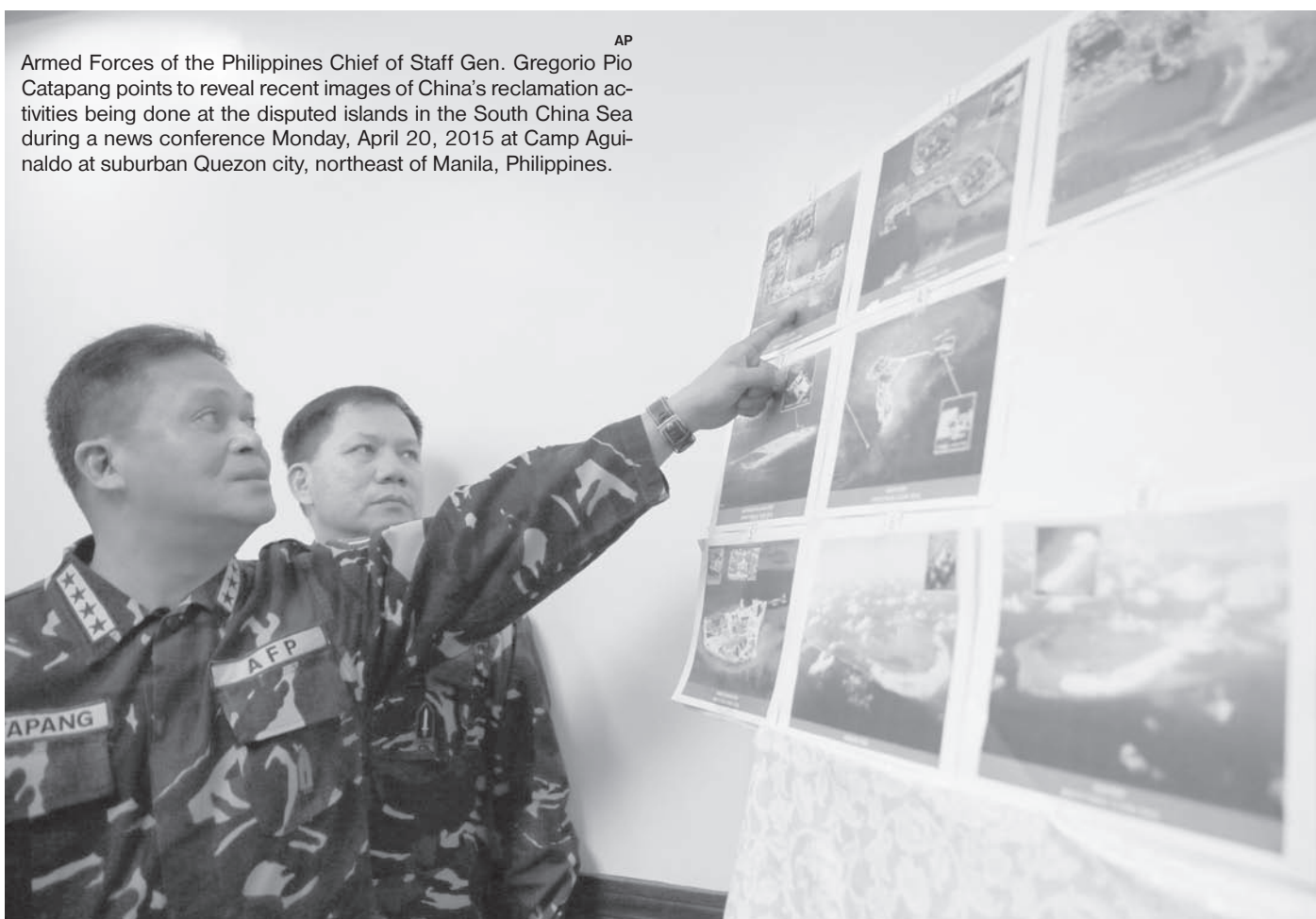
US, PH start combat drills amid Chinese reclamation

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—More than 11,500 American and Filipino military personnel launched one of their largest annual combat exercises Monday amid growing alarm over massive land reclamation by China in disputed South China Sea territories.

Philippine military officials said the “Balikatan,” or shoulder-to-shoulder, maneuvers, which involve more than 90 aircraft and ships, were not directed at China. But the venue of some of the war games in waters facing the disputed region and a focus on territorial defense appear to link the exercises to the long-simmering conflict.

More than 120 Philippine and U.S. Marines will be deployed from an amphibious attack vessel Tuesday to simulate the re-taking of an island occupied by enemy forces in northwestern Zambales province, Filipino officials said. There will be live-fire and search and rescue drills as well as civic work in other areas.

China seized control of a shoal off Zambales after a standoff with Philippine ships three years ago. Incensed, the Philippines challenged the validity of China’s vast territorial



AP
Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Gen. Gregorio Pio Catapang points to reveal recent images of China’s reclamation activities being done at the disputed islands in the South China Sea during a news conference Monday, April 20, 2015 at Camp Aguinaldo at suburban Quezon city, northeast of Manila, Philippines.

claims before an international arbitration tribunal in 2013, straining ties.

Shortly before overseeing the

start of the military exercises, Philippine military chief Gen. Gregorio Pio Catapang Jr. held a news conference to release surveillance photos showing Chinese reclamation of eight previously submerged reefs in the disputed Spratly Islands, saying Beijing’s actions increase the risk of an accidental confrontation.

“We have compelling reasons to raise our voice to tell the whole world the adverse effects of China’s aggressiveness that has created tensions not only among the countries who have overlapping claims in the area,” Catapang said.

Washington has expressed concern over China’s actions.

U.S. Sen. John McCain and three other top-ranking senators overseeing U.S. defense and foreign policy have called for a comprehensive strategy to deal with China’s territorial moves, including the massive reclamation, warning that American interests and those of its allies stand at considerable risk.

Adm. Samuel Locklear, the commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, warned last week that the artificial islands could serve as resupply bases for China’s large fleet of maritime security vessels. China eventually could deploy missiles and radar on them, providing a platform for enforcing a possible air defense identification zone similar to one it declared over disputed Japanese-held islands in the East China Sea in 2013.

The reclamation has destroyed large swaths of coral reefs, Catapang said, adding that Filipino fishermen have been driven away from the construction sites, denying them their livelihood.

Catapang said some of the reclamation projects were just several kilometers (miles) from a Philippine-occupied island it calls Pag-asa and Second Thomas Shoal, raising the possibility that Chinese military patrols could cut off Manila’s access to those areas.

Philippine government agencies were meeting to determine how to respond to the situation, Catapang said, adding that Manila wants a peaceful resolution based on international laws.

Chinese officials have defended the land reclamation by saying it is Beijing’s territory, adding that the buildings and infrastructure are for public service use and to support fishermen.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Japan PM sends offerings to criticized war shrine

TOKYO (AP)—Japan’s Prime Minister Shinzo Abe sent religious offerings Tuesday to a Tokyo shrine that honors convicted World War II leaders among its war dead. But Abe’s offerings signal that he will not pray at the controversial Yasukuni shrine ahead of trips to Asia and the United States. Previous shrine visits and offerings have drawn sharp rebukes from China and South Korea. As victims of Japan’s wartime aggression, the two neighbors see the shrine as a symbol of Japan’s militarism and visits by Japanese political leaders as a sign of Japan’s lack of remorse over its atrocities.

Chinese leader in Pakistan to unveil \$45B in investments

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Chinese President Xi Jinping arrived in Pakistan on Monday for a two-day visit in which he is expected to announce \$45 billion worth of investment projects in energy and infrastructure development. Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the country’s top civilian and military leadership received Xi at an air force base near the capital, Islamabad, complete with a military honor guard and a fighter jet fly-by. Pakistan’s minister for plan-

ning and development, Ahsan Iqbal, said the Chinese leader’s expected announcement on the projects is “proof of our great bond with China.”

Around \$37 billion of the \$45 billion would be invested in energy, Iqbal said. Work on \$28 billion worth of projects can begin immediately, he said, with work on the remainder starting in the next three to five years. Iqbal called the agreements a “milestone in our history.”

Van and 3-wheeled vehicle collide in India; 5 students dead

PATNA, India (AP)—A van collided with a small three-wheeled vehicle packed with 11 teenage students in eastern India on Monday, killing five students and injuring six others, police said. Villagers who took the injured students, including three in critical condition, to a nearby government hospital in Bihar state became incensed when they discovered no doctors were present. About 100 people attacked the hospital in anger and burned six vehicles, including an ambulance, before stick-wielding police broke up the crowd, Siwan district police Chief Vikas Verma said. The villagers also held a protest around the bodies of the dead students in front of the hospital, stopping traffic, he said.

South Korea’s prime minister offers to resign amid scandal

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea’s prime minister has offered to resign amid a bribery scandal just two months after he took up the country’s No. 2 post, officials said Tuesday, in the latest political crisis to hit President Park Geun-hye.

Lee Wan Koo has been at the center of a corruption scandal that flared after a businessman killed himself earlier this month, leaving a memo listing the names of eight high-profile figures he claimed to have bribed. Most of the eight men,

including Lee, are considered close associates of Park.

Businessman Sung Wan-jong told a local daily before his death he gave 30 million won (\$27,390) to Lee in 2013.

Lee has denied the allegation but he has seen growing calls to resign after South Korea’s media have reported alleged evidence that indicates his ties with Sung. Lee’s office said Tuesday he conveyed his resignation offer Monday to President Park, who was in Peru on a four-nation trip.

Park described Lee’s resigna-

tion offer as “very regrettable” and said she “felt the prime minister’s agony,” according to a statement posted on the website of the presidential Blue House.

Park also called for a thorough investigation into the scandal, the statement said.

Chun Hye-ran, a presidential spokeswoman in Seoul, said she has not been informed whether Park would accept it.

The latest scandal comes as Park struggles to deal with criticism over her government’s handling of last year’s ferry disaster

that killed more than 300 people. Violence broke out at a Seoul rally Saturday led by relatives of the ferry victims and their supporters, leaving dozens of people injured. Park has also faced criticism over what analysts say is her poor communication with the public and lack of transparency on personnel appointments. Some of her previous prime minister and Cabinet member picks have had to withdraw from the nomination process after allegations about their ethical lapses and problematic past behavior emerged.

UN refugee agency says Australia rejected Vietnamese at sea

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—The United Nations refugee agency said Tuesday that it had raised concerns with Australian authorities that a boatload of Vietnamese asylum seekers had their refugee applications rejected at sea before the Australian navy secretly returned them to Vietnam.

The 46 Vietnamese were offloaded from an Australian navy ship at the port city of Vung Tau last Friday, local Australian media reports said.

UNHCR spokeswoman Vivian Tan said Australian officials had confirmed that asylum seekers had been screened at sea

and returned to Vietnam.

The UNHCR had asked the Australian government on Monday for details of the procedures used to assess their applications, Tan said. Australia had yet to respond.

“We’ve expressed concerns before about the procedures of screening at sea because we’re worried that it may mean that people seeking asylum may not have gone through the proper procedures, their protection claims might not have gone through a fair refugee status determination procedure and if this is the case, then authorities may be putting at risk already

vulnerable people,” Tan said.

The Australian navy routinely turns back boats carrying asylum seekers from Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. However, these boats are usually returned to Indonesia, where most of the sea voyages begin.

Immigration Minister Peter Dutton has refused to confirm that the Vietnamese asylum seekers had been turned back, citing a policy of secrecy surrounding the interception of people-smuggling boats attempting to reach Australian shores.

His office issued a statement Tuesday saying that Australia had not beached its obligations

under the United Nations Refugee Convention by returning refugees to the country where they risk persecution.

“The Australian government acts in accordance with its international obligations,” the statement said.

Local media reported that the boat left Vietnam in March and was intercepted by Australian customs and navy vessels early in April.

In a rare update on its ocean surveillance of such boats, Dutton revealed in January that 15 asylum boats containing 429 asylum seekers had been turned back since his government was elected in September 2013.

World

Prosecutors: Capsized boat captain and crew member arrested

CATANIA, Sicily (AP)—Prosecutors said Tuesday that they arrested the captain and a crew member of the boat in which as many as 900 people are feared to have drowned in the unremitting waves of migrants seeking to escape from war-torn Libya.

Even as the search continued for victims of the weekend disaster, coast guard ships rushed to respond to new distress calls on the high seas—two off Libya and a third boat that ran aground near Greece.

Assistant Prosecutor Rocco Liguori said the Tunisian captain and Syrian crew member were arrested aboard the rescue boat that brought 27 survivors from the deadly shipwreck to Sicily. The two were charged with favoring illegal immigration and the captain was also charged with reckless multiple homicide in relation to the sinking.

Decrying what he called an “escalation in these death voyages,” Italian Premier Matteo Renzi urged Europe to put the focus on preventing more boats from leaving Libya, the source of 90 percent of migrant traffic to Italy.



In this photo taken at the Palermo harbor on April 15 and made available Sunday, April 19, migrants receive relief after disembarking in Palermo, Sicily, Italy.

“We are facing an organized criminal activity that is making lots of money, but above all ruining many lives,” Renzi said at a joint news conference with Malta’s prime minister, Joseph Muscat. He compared their activity to that of slave traders of

centuries past, “unscrupulous men who traded human lives.”

The European Union foreign affairs chief, Federica Mogherini, said this weekend’s appalling human toll—which, if verified, would be the deadliest migrant tragedy ever—had

“finally” fully awakened the European Union to the evils of human trafficking.

The EU has been under increasing criticism for lagging in its response to the crisis, with two shipwrecks believed to have taken the lives of as

Perilous crossing

This weekend’s shipwreck near the Libyan coast could bring to well over 1,000 the number of migrants who died or went missing during Mediterranean crossings in the last week.



1. April 12: 400 migrants feared drowned after their vessel capsizes 60 nautical miles off Libya
2. April 19: As many as 700-900 migrants feared drowned as boat capsizes in Libyan waters south of Lampedusa.
3. April 20: As many as were 3 killed, and 93 people rescued from a migrant boat that ran aground on the coast of the Greek island of Rhodes.

Mediterranean migrants

13,500 Migrants rescued April, 10-17

1,600 Feared dead crossing this year

35,000 Arrived from North Africa

218,000 Estimated to have crossed Mediterranean in 2014

3,500 Died attempting to cross last year

Source: AP, BBC
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

many as 1,300 migrants in the past week. Some 400 people are believed to have drowned in another capsizing on April 13.

Stopping the traffickers will be a key item on the agenda when EU leaders meet in an emergency summit Thursday in Brussels, along with a pro-

posal to double spending on sea patrols off Europe’s southern border. The 10-point plan includes a proposal to take “civil-military” action modeled on Europe’s anti-piracy operation off the coast of Somalia, to capture and destroy boats used by traffickers.

Turkey sends condolences to descendants of killed Armenians

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu on Monday extended condolences to the descendants of Armenians killed 100 years ago by Ottoman Turks, saying Turkey shared their pain and also announced that a service would be held at the Armenian Patriarchate in Istanbul to commemorate the victims.

In his conciliatory message released days ahead of the April 24 centenary commemorations, Davutoglu however, stopped short of the calling the killings a genocide and criticized efforts to press Turkey to recognize the slaughter as such.

“To reduce everything to a

single word, to load all of the responsibility on the Turkish nation ... and to combine this with a discourse of hatred is legally and morally problematic,” Davutoglu said.

Armenians have been campaigning for greater recognition that the slaughter constituted genocide in the run-up to the centenary while Turkey has fiercely lobbied to prevent countries from officially recognizing the massacres as genocide.

Turkey is concerned that U.S. President Barack Obama—who has avoided using the term given the importance Washington place on Turkey as an ally—may refer to the deaths as genocide on

April 24.

Historians estimate that up to 1.5 million Armenians were killed by Ottoman Turks around the time of World War I, an event widely viewed by scholars as the first genocide of the 20th century. Turkey however, denies that the deaths constituted genocide, saying the toll has been inflated, and that those killed were victims of civil war and unrest.

“We once again respectfully remember Ottoman Armenians who lost their lives during the deportation of 1915 and share the pain of their children and grandchildren,” Davutoglu said in his message.

The Armenian National

Committee of America immediately rejected Davutoglu’s message as a “fake apology” and called on Obama to formally recognize the killings as genocide.

“Prime Minister Davutoglu’s fake apology today grants no recognition, accepts no responsibility, expresses no regret and offers no reparations,” the group’s director, Aram Hamparian, said. “President Obama has a historic opportunity to reject Turkey’s gag-rule, ending a shameful chapter of U.S. complicity in Ankara’s denial and moving Turkey, Armenia, and the region toward a better future based upon a truthful and just resolution of this crime.”

Ethiopians shocked by Islamic State killings

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP)—Many in Ethiopia are reeling from the news that several Ethiopians were killed in Libya by the Islamic State group, which over the weekend released a video purporting to show the killings.

The killings, which have shocked many in the predominantly Christian country, were condemned by Pope Francis and U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

The victims were planning to go to Europe by boat from Libya but were captured and then killed by the Islamic extremists, said grieving family members and government officials. Ethiopia’s government on

Monday declared three days of mourning.

Pope Francis on Monday sent a letter to the patriarch of Ethiopian Tewahedo Orthodox Church, Abuna Matthias, expressing “distress and sadness” at the “further shocking violence perpetrated against innocent Christians in Libya.

The pope has been very vocal in condemning the persecution of Christians across the globe in recent months, and stressed in the letter to the Ethiopian orthodox patriarch that “it makes no difference whether the victims are Catholic, Copt, Orthodox or Protestant.”

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned the kill-

ings and “utterly deplores the targeting of people on the basis of their religious affiliation,” his spokesman said.

The U.N. Security Council condemned “the heinous and cowardly apparent murder” of more than 30 Ethiopian Christians and stressed again that the Islamic State group “must be defeated and that the intolerance, violence and hatred it espouses must be stamped out.”

The council demanded the immediate release of all hostages held by the extremist group and called for those responsible for the “reprehensible acts of terrorism” to be brought to justice.

Some people gathered Monday gathered in an Addis Ababa slum to mourn two former residents whose faces were recognized in the Islamic State video. The 29-minute video, released on Sunday via social media accounts and websites used by the extremists, shows many Ethiopian Christians held captive in Libya being shot or beheaded by militants.

Eyasu Yikunoamlak and Balcha Belete left Ethiopia two months ago with the aim of reaching Europe. They are believed to have left Ethiopia through Sudan and later traveled to Libya where they planned to take a boat to Europe but they were seized by Islamic State militants, relatives told The Associated Press on Monday.

SIDEBAR

Many migrants drawn by jobs, welfare in northern Europe

STOCKHOLM (AP)—For tens of thousands of migrants who survive the hazardous crossing of the Mediterranean, the journey often continues as they slip through cracks in Italy’s border controls and head north.

With Italy’s unemployment at 13 percent, many new arrivals would rather settle in the wealthier welfare states of northern Europe where there are better job opportunities and more established refugee communities.

Helped by a blind eye from Italian authorities and visa-free travel inside Europe, migrants can relatively easily make it all the way to Scandinavia before they apply for asylum—even though European Union rules state they should do so in the first EU country they enter.

Of the 435,000 people who applied for asylum last year in the 28-nation European Union, nearly half did so in Germany and Sweden.

“The distribution is very uneven,” said Mikael Ribbenvik, the deputy director of the Swedish Migration Agency.

The authority noted in its annual report for 2014 that some EU countries, including Italy,

don’t enforce rules requiring refugees to apply for asylum in the first EU country they enter.

Instead, Italy lets thousands of migrants slip quietly into the north without fingerprinting them, leaving no record of their time in the country.

Still, Ribbenvik acknowledged that Italy also faces a huge challenge as a country on the front lines of Europe’s migration flows, rescuing thousands of desperate people trying to enter Europe by sea.

“If all of them had sought asylum Italy would have had 170,000 applications last year. That’s just as unreasonable as Sweden taking such a big proportion,” Ribbenvik said.

An Associated Press analysis of EU and Italian data last year suggested that as many as a quarter of the migrants who should have been fingerprinted in the first half of 2014 were not.

Syrians in particular are falling off the radar. Many just spend a few days in Italy before they head north. At Milan’s main train station, they are met by railway police, aid workers and city officials who offer food, a bed and—if they want it—advice on asylum.

Focus

ITOMAN, Japan (AP)—In Norman Baker's mind, the Japanese were fanatical, brutal animals with no respect for life. To Yoshiko Shimabukuro, Americans were long-nosed demons who rained hellfire from the skies before raping and pillaging anything with the worse-than-death fate of crossing their path.

Both the 18-year-old U.S. Marine and the 17-year-old Okinawan school-girl had known the enemy only from the virulent propaganda they had been fed. Seventy years ago, when they finally met their foes, it was on the most terrifying terms.

Japan and the United States, the bitterest of enemies during World War II, are now among the closest of allies. Polls show the Japanese feel more affinity toward the U.S. than any other country. Most Americans and Japanese alive today weren't even born when Japan surrendered in 1945. That includes U.S. President Barack Obama and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who will meet in Washington this month.

But for Baker and Shimabukuro, who experienced the war's darkest moments in separate, back-to-back battles hundreds of miles apart, it's never been easy to reconcile the hatred of the past with the peace of the present. It took decades for Baker to open up about his experiences. Shimabukuro has spent her life teaching children the horrors of her personal battle and praying for the day when the 20,000 U.S. troops still based on her island will leave, once and for all.

These are their stories, as told to The Associated Press on Iwo Jima and the island of Okinawa.

■■■■

Baker arrived with the 4th Marine Division on Iwo Jima in the dead of night on Feb. 25, 1945, a last-minute replacement to a battalion of Seabees. Because he had no construction experience, he was assigned to a security detachment protecting units clearing two airfields, the first near Mount Suribachi—scene of the iconic U.S. flag-raising. Initially, he was armed with an M1 carbine. Later, he got a Thompson submachine gun. He was the first off his unit's landing craft.

"When the clam doors opened, I had no concept of war," he said. "I became a man in a matter of seconds."

"The beach was by this time a chaos of men and equipment under Japanese mortar and artillery fire. It was a sobering and aging experience. I quickly moved into a shell hole," he said.

With sunrise, his unit moved toward the south end of the first airfield and dug in for the night. Baker found his best friend, Lincoln Clement, dead in a foxhole the next morning.

At first, most of the Japanese soldiers Baker came across were either dead or hidden in the tiny island's thick foliage, extensive labyrinth of caves or heavily fortified firing positions.

It might have been the second day, or maybe the third—Baker had already lost his sense of time—when it happened. He and his foxhole partner were moving northward. It was morning.

"We encountered this small pillbox, which had been neutralized earlier by the Marines," he said. "As we moved past the pillbox, I cautiously looked into the firing aperture."

Inside he saw a Japanese soldier huddled down in a corner. The soldier moved.

"It was standard operating procedure



This combination of photos shows Norman Baker, left, of Delaplane, Va. in Iwo Jima on March 21, 2015 and Yoshiko Shimabukuro, a former member of the Himeyuri Student Nurse Corps, in Itoman, Japan, on March 22, 2015.

Iwo Jima vet, Okinawa survivor wrestle with WWII LEGACY

By ERIC TALMADGE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

not to bypass a questionable 'dead' enemy soldier without making certain that he was dead."

So, without hesitation, Baker fired.

"He was so close when I shot him the blood splattered on me," he said.

"We were indoctrinated throughout that the Japanese were a people to be hated; that they considered prisoners as cowards to be brutally treated, if the prisoner was lucky, or killed at the slightest provocation, as so many were," Baker explained. "Before Iwo, we had learned of this inhuman treatment, not only of the prisoners of war, but also of the civilians they conquered. The Japanese exhibited no compassion. We saw them as the terrorists of the time."

Baker's battlefield experiences, for the most part, reinforced his hatred.

"I was a good soldier. I developed a brutal mentality. I didn't avoid contact."

Only once did he hesitate to pull the trigger.

On Iwo Jima, some of the worst fighting was around Hill 382, the highest point on the northern part of the island, from which the dug-in and hidden Japanese fought desperately. The area was known as the Meat Grinder.

Walking in a column with his unit, Baker prepared to jump over a shell hole when he spotted a Japanese soldier moving below. The soldier faced Baker and raised his left arm above his head. Baker aimed his machine gun and motioned for the man to raise his other arm. They were just a few feet apart.

"I threw off the safety on the Thomp-

son and prepared to kill him," Baker said. "His eyes pleaded for his life as he turned enough to show me that he had been shot in the back in the area of his right shoulder blade."

The Marine behind Baker yelled at him to quickly kill the Japanese soldier. Baker said no. He was taking the man prisoner.

After making the soldier strip to his underwear to be sure he was unarmed, Baker gave him a cigarette and some water. Then he was taken away.

"I have always wished that I could have found out what he did with his life," Baker said. He will probably never know.

■■■■

Iwo Jima was declared secure on March 16, 1945. On April 1, the U.S. invaded Okinawa. For both sides, this was high noon.

Japan poured everything it could into defending the island and the U.S. sent the biggest armada in history to mount the "Typhoon of Steel," seen as a prelude to the invasion of Japan's main islands that—until the atomic bombs fell on Hiroshima and Nagasaki—seemed inevitable.

Unlike Iwo Jima, inhabited only by combatants, Okinawa was densely populated with civilians.

By late March, Japanese soldiers were fortifying Okinawa and mobilizing Okinawan civilians for the fight ahead. Shimabukuro was assigned to the Himeyuri Student Corps.

She packed lightly. Like her friends, she was told she'd be home in a week.

In fact, more than half of the 240 women and girls would never come home.

After three days of training, she was sent to Imperial Army Hospital Cave 24, where she helped dig and prepare the interior for patients. By the end of the month, she was moved to Cave No. 17, where she got water and helped with surgeries. After about a month there, she was moved to a smaller cave, then to the Ihara No. 1 Surgical Cave.

As the fighting closed in around them, Shimabukuro watched amputations without anesthesia, treated horribly infected wounds, listened to the cries of soldiers and sat helplessly as they died. They had little water and even less food. When a shell hit right outside a cave opening, killing all who were near, she knew the end was at hand.

Her unit was dissolved on June 18. She was ordered to leave the cave.

"We didn't want to leave. We didn't want to have to be scattered out there and die alone," she said. "I asked for some kind of explosive, or cyanide, so that I could kill myself if the Americans came. I was told they didn't have anything like that for us. They told us that if we were captured we should bite off our own tongues and bleed to death."

"We called them the American beasts. We were taught that if they captured us, they wouldn't just kill us. They would strip us naked, rape us. So we weren't as afraid to die as we were afraid of being captured alive."

With a friend, she wandered around at night, clinging to the shadows of rocks along the shoreline as U.S. Navy

ships offshore blasted orders for them to stop hiding and surrender. They were also ordered to move only during the day, when they could be identified as non-combatants.

"We assumed it was all lies, and we didn't obey them," she said.

Two days after she left the cave, she stepped on an explosive, badly wounding her right arm and leg. After that, her memory is a blur. Some villagers helped carry her and her friend, who was also injured, to a relatively safe place. As they hid behind some crags, maggots ate away at their wounds.

"The pain was tremendous," she said. "I asked my friend to kill me. But she couldn't kill a friend."

Shimabukuro was fading in and out of consciousness when she heard the footsteps. "I prayed they wouldn't come to us, but they did," she said.

"There were five American soldiers standing over us with their guns. They probably thought we had grenades. When they tried to pat down my friend's chest, she resisted. They checked my pockets too. We didn't have anything. I was so weak I couldn't bite off my tongue. I begged to them, 'Kill me, kill me.'"

One of the Americans put his weapon down. Another blew a whistle to alert comrades nearby. Because her friend had more strength, it took three of them to hold her down. Shimabukuro was so exhausted from the pain and loss of blood she could barely resist. She remembers her friend saying, "Let's die quietly, looking at the moon."

The soldiers—probably actually Marines or Navy corpsmen—opened two bottles of a fluid Shimabukuro didn't immediately recognize. In her haze of terror, she thought it was gasoline and that they were about to set her on fire.

"But then they started treating us," she said. "What they were pouring on my wounds was to kill the maggots growing in my arm. They poured it out like it was water. The Japanese would have used the same amount to treat 50 men. But they used a whole bottle just on me. The maggots just died and started falling off."

She was taken away on a stretcher.

She continued to hate and distrust her captors. She refused to eat their food, or tell them anything about her unit.

"Being captured was the greatest shame. I thought they were just trying to deceive us by being kind, and that they would eventually kill us in some terrible way. The kinder they were the more I distrusted them."

As more and more local people she knew and trusted were interned with her, she loosened up. Okinawa had officially fallen on June 23, before she was even captured. She learned the war itself was over not from Emperor Hirohito's unprecedented radio announcement on Aug. 15, but from a Japanese man at the camp who was born in Hawaii and spoke English.

"My question was, who won?"

■■■■

After returning home from Japan, Baker pursued an education. When the Korean War broke out in 1950, he endured another solid year of combat, fighting in some of that war's most brutal battles: the Punchbowl, Heartbreak Ridge, Kumwha Valley.

Home for good, he finished his degree, became an aerospace engineer and was active in the space program before switching to journalism and publishing. He has lived in Delaplane,

See LEGACY on next page

Good Housekeeping

How much does a swimming pool really cost?

By JASON HARGRAVES
ANGIE'S LIST

If you're thinking about adding a swimming pool to your backyard, then chances are the cost of the project is a top concern.

Asking a local pool company how much a project will cost, however, is like asking how much a house costs to build. There's no one size-fits-all answer.

You have to factor in many elements of an in-ground pool cost, according to the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals, such as size, additions, water features, screen enclosures, heaters and patio designs.

That said, poolpricer.com gives a rough estimate of between \$25,000 to \$50,000 for an in-ground pool. That's a pretty big range, and even that is assuming your pool is of average size, in an average city. It also doesn't factor in the cost of your pool's upkeep.

You can, however, keep yourself informed about the many hidden costs of putting in a pool that could run up the final bill.

"I've seen examples of homeowners getting hit with such costs after the start of the project by their pool company many, many times," says Marcus Sheridan, with River Pools and Spas in Warsaw, Va.

6 hidden costs in pool installations

Sheridan says that an occasional hidden cost is inevitable, and that "most can and should be caught, or at least



In-ground swimming pools start at about \$25,000 to install, and that's just the beginning of the process.

ANGIE'S LIST

brought to light, beforehand."

Here are six hidden costs that River Pools and Spas say can derail even the best-planned pool installation budget.

■ **Dirt Hauling:** When an in-ground swimming pool is built, a significant amount of dirt comes out of the ground and has to go somewhere. Always find out before the digging starts if dirt hauling is included in the cost of the project.

■ **Lawn and landscaping:** The process of putting in an in-ground swimming pool requires a lot of heavy equipment. That's bad news

for your manicured lawn. Any grass in this area, and perhaps on the path to the pool location, will need to be seeded or replaced after a pool installation.

■ **Extra Concrete:** Homeowners often forget they will need patio space around the pool, which usually means more concrete. The cost of additional patio space is usually the most expensive option to the pool.

■ **Electrical:** Some pool builders include electrical hook-up in their standard package, while others treat it as a separate invoice. The extent of an electrical job is based on how

many items, such as pool lights and spas, the homeowner requests. Make sure you know where it falls on your invoice.

■ **Fencing:** Almost every city requires a pool be behind a fence of some form. It's almost always better to have the fence addressed at the same time the swimming pool and patio are planned.

■ **Retaining Walls:** These structures can be pricey. They also have extreme importance in terms of pool and deck stability, as well as proper yard drainage. Be sure to get the price settled before the project starts.

When your patio needs some attention

By ALAN J. HEAVENS
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER



Q: We recently had a new home built that includes a large screened-in patio with concrete pavers on the floor.

After almost four months, there are still a lot of areas where sand needs to be added between the pavers or where sand has risen and thus there is loose sand on the surface—no matter how many times we sweep it.

Is this normal for these types of floors? How long should it take for all the sand to settle? Also, should

pavers be sealed, and is there anything that can be done to keep the sand in place?

Answer: I think this is normal. My patio of interlocking pavers needs periodic maintenance, especially weeding between the pavers in the spring.

Sand has a tendency to wash out between the cracks, and you should see what the chipmunks have been doing to a small area with concrete pavers in another spot in my yard.

A few years back, when I had a couple of free days, I decided to remove all the growth and moss between the patio pavers and add more sand, which is done simply by sweeping it around until the cracks are filled.

At a hardware show that year, I came across a product that was being introduced by Quikrete called PowerLoc Jointing Sand.

The product is polymer-based, which Quikrete said prevents it from washing out or cracking.

Quikrete touted the product, which comes in 50-pound bags ranging in price from \$14 to \$18, depending on where you buy it, as resisting weed growth, insects and erosion, as well as stabilizing the pavers and not staining them.

I tried it on just a small part of my patio, and the product did what it was supposed to, but I didn't have time to use it on the rest of the patio.

I typically don't recommend products—your situation and experience may be different from mine—but the cost of experimenting with one bag isn't great.

The section of my patio that has PowerLoc is the only one where I never see any anthills between the cracks, and that may be an added benefit.

Information is available on the Quikrete website: www.quikrete.com.

Contact Alan J. Heavens at aheavens@phillynews.com or write him at The Philadelphia Inquirer, Box 8263, Philadelphia PA 19101. Volume prohibits individual replies.)

THIS IS A HAMMER

Airing out the indoors

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: My grandmother constantly tells me my apartment is "stale" and that I need to air it out at least once a week. I have no idea what she's talking about...opening windows, I guess?—Kaylie, via email

A: Well, yeah ... opening windows is the main component of airing out a house, but there are a number of reasons why older folks (and many younger ones) see it as an essential step in keeping a house healthy.

In the early 20th century, airing homes was considered a crucial health component, as it was believed that fresh air would reduce the incidence of flu and other serious illnesses. Modern research has found some validity in this: The exchange of air keeps mold from growing, while a change in temperature can make it tougher for bacteria to live on surfaces around the house. Letting in sunlight also can make it tougher for molds and bacteria to survive.



Most of all, though, airing does get rid of the stale smell your grandmother noticed, and makes your apartment an overall nicer place to live. Here are a few tips on getting the most out of airing:

■ **Get rid of piles:** Boxes, clothes, papers and so on, particularly on windowsills and beside beds and furniture, collect dust and impede airflow.

■ **Open the windows on first waking up:** This is a habit I noticed while visiting friends in Europe, and it makes a lot of sense. Once you're dressed and leaving for work, shut the windows again.

■ **Or, air your apartment once a week while you're cleaning:** Winter and summer, open all the windows and doors, dust and vacuum thoroughly, and change or air bedding (turn down the bed covers for a couple of hours, and shake out the comforter).

■ **Even if it's chilly, windy or cloudy outside,** as long as it's not pouring down rain, you can open the windows for about an hour to allow a fresh exchange of air.

TIP: If allergies are keeping you from throwing open the windows on warm days, talk to an air-quality consultant (or an HVAC contractor) about the best way to keep the indoor air fresh—such as changing air filters frequently.

Send your questions or home tips to ask@thisisahammer.com.

LEGACY

From Page 17

Virginia, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, for the past 55 years.

"For 40 years after the war, I never spoke of the conflict or the role I played in that conflict," said Baker, now 88. He said he didn't tell his parents, colleagues or even his closest friends about his experiences on Iwo Jima. "It was only after I attended my first reunions that I found there were others that I could talk to."

Last month, Baker returned to Iwo Jima for the second and probably final time to attend a "Reunion

of Honor." The memorial is held with Japanese officials and bereaved families on the island, which Japan renamed Iwoto in 2007.

"The hate and bitterness I felt for the Japanese, which was universal during World War II, was left on Iwo Jima," Baker said after the visit. "That was then, this is now."

But he added: "I can never forget their cruelty and inhumanity, not only to us the enemy, but also among themselves. There is still a cultural divide that I guess we cannot expect to narrow."

No Japanese survivors were present at this year's memorial—of the 22,000 Japanese who fought there, only a couple hundred survived. Meanwhile, the

number of U.S. vets healthy enough to make the trip declines every year.

Baker and his 4th Marine Division comrades will hold their group's final muster this summer at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. It was with these vets that Baker first opened up about his past. He was president of the 4th Marine Division Association for a year.

"Our attending numbers have become so small that we will have to fold it up," he said.

■■■■■

Shimabukuro's wounds were so severe that doctors at the U.S. medical facility where she was treated wanted to amputate. She refused. She still has shrapnel in her arm and chest.

She went on to become a teacher. In 1984, she and other survivors of the Himeyuri unit built a museum about 400 meters away from the last cave where Shimabukuro served. Ever since, large groups have gathered nearly every day to hear Shimabukuro and the others talk of their experiences.

A few weeks ago, they gave their last formal lectures. Shimabukuro, 87, says they just don't have the strength anymore.

Like Baker, she no longer harbors the kind of blind hatred that consumed her 70 years ago. But her distrust remains, largely because of the continued U.S. military presence in Okinawa, home to several U.S. bases and the

largest contingent of Marines outside of the United States or a war zone.

One of the camps where Shimabukuro was held after her capture is now Kadena Air Base, the largest Air Force base on foreign soil in the Pacific.

"I don't feel any gratitude toward the Americans on their military bases here," she said. "They say they are here to protect Okinawa, to protect Japan. But we should instead be working together to create a world in which they aren't needed."

"I don't hate them," she added, her voice fading as she carefully thought of what to say next.

"I do still believe the Americans are a kind people."

Life & Style

MYPros holds successful launch mixer

The Marianas Young Professionals, or MYPros, held a very successful Happy Hour Launch Mixer last Friday, April 10, at the Pacific Islands Club's Seaside Grill. The mixer, MYPros' first social event, brought together 80 of the CNMI's professionals under the age of 40, for an evening of networking, pitching ideas, and sharing challenges and solutions to help chart course of the Commonwealth's future.

Lt. Gov. Ralph Dlg. Torres and his wife, Lady Diann, were among the young professionals from both the public and private sector in attendance.

"We hoped to bring together a broad range of professionals from across the CNMI," said MYPros president

Bo Palacios. "So it was truly gratifying to see such a diverse turnout at our launch mixer."

MYPros was formed independently and organically in an effort to represent the interests of the CNMI's young population and not any special interest group. With over a hundred already registered, MYPros will continue its membership drive to help build upon the momentum of the Launch Mixer.

The Mixer also gave

young professionals a chance to sign up for subcommittees such as Membership, Social Networking, Events & Mixers, Community Involvement, Government & Private Policies, and Business Development. Members were also encouraged to submit their ideas for community projects they would like to see implemented.

"We are so pleased to see that there are many

young men and women in the CNMI who want to make a difference. This is only the beginning of a new and focused movement to bring the power of young minds into our community," said MYPros vice president Nola Hix. "We especially want to thank Lt. Gov. Torres for his participation and support for our organization."

In addition to Palacios and Hix, the founding MYPros board include treasurer Nik-

ki Villagomez, CUC water/wastewater engineer; secretary Jacqueline Che, NMC director of Institutional Effectiveness; directors Matt Deleon Guerrero, Lt. Governor's chief of staff; Kaitlyn Neises-Mocanu, REACH project assistant at the Division of Public Health; and Rep. Angel A. Demapan from the CNMI Legislature.

"The success of our launch mixer would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors," said Vil-

lagomez. "We would like to thank MARPAC Distributors, Pacific Islands Club, Delta Air Lines, Joeten Enterprises, Xerox Corp., Saipan World Resort, Pacifica Insurance, IT&E, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Megabyte, Triple J Truckload Store, Steven Brownstein Entertainment, and Hyatt Regency Saipan."

The mission of MYPros is to connect passionate young professionals with opportunities for social and professional growth and civic engagement for the benefit of the Commonwealth.

MYPros invites motivated, driven individuals within the ages of 21 to 40 who live or work in the CNMI to register for membership by visiting www.MYPros.org. (**MYPros**)



NEW YORK (AP)—It was a list no state wanted to top. And when South Carolina was ranked as having the highest rate of women being killed by men, *The Post and Courier* of Charleston set out to explore why.

Starting in 2013, the newspaper began an investigation that has spurred proposals for reform and on Monday won the Pulitzer Prize for public service.

The New York Times collected three Pulitzers and the *Los Angeles Times* won two as the awards honored news outlets large and small. The 70,000-circulation *Daily Breeze* of Torrance, California, won the local reporting award for exposing corruption in a school district, while the 84,000-circulation *Post and Courier* was recognized for examining the deaths of 300 women in the past decade.

"We felt so passionate about this project, and we felt so passionate about the difference it could bring to South Carolina," Publisher P.J. Browning said.

Since the series was published, state lawmakers have proposed tougher penalties for domestic violence, and Gov. Nikki Haley created a task force to investigate the problem.

The Seattle Times took the breaking news award for covering a mudslide that killed 43 people and exploring whether the disaster could have been prevented.

"When public officials were saying, 'Oh, this was unforeseen,' we showed that it was not unforeseen," Editor Kathy Best told staffers.

The New York Times and *The Wall Street Journal* both won investigative reporting prizes, the *Times* for an examination of lobbyists' influence on state attorneys general, the *Journal* for detailing fraud and waste in the Medicare payment system.

The *Times*' coverage of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa won Pulitzers for international reporting and feature photography, and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* was honored in the breaking news photography category for



S. Carolina paper's domestic killings series wins Pulitzer

The *Post and Courier* staff, including publisher P.J. Browning, cheer after the Pulitzer announcement Monday, April 20, 2015 in Charleston, S.C.

AP

images of racial unrest touched off by the deadly police shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri.

The Washington Post took the national reporting prize for exposing security lapses that spurred an overhaul of the Secret Service.

The *Los Angeles Times*' prizes were for feature writing that put a human face on California's drought and for Mary McNamara's television criticism.

Bloomberg News was a first-time winner, taking the explanatory reporting award for an examination of

corporate tax dodging.

The commentary prize went to the *Houston Chronicle's* Lisa Falkenberg, who examined justice issues including the case of a man wrongfully convicted of killing a police officer. The editorial writing winner, Kathleen Kingsbury of *The Boston Globe*, chronicled restaurant workers' low wages and the toll of income inequality.

Adam Zyglis of *The Buffalo News* won the editorial cartooning prize for his look at such issues as immigration and gun control.

The Pulitzers, established by news-

paper publisher Joseph Pulitzer and first given out in 1917, are American journalism's highest honor. The public service award consists of a gold medal; the other awards carry a prize of \$10,000 each.

In the prizes' arts categories, Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See*, an emotional and intimate World War II novel, won for fiction. The drama prize went to Stephen Adly Guirgis's *Between Riverside and Crazy*, a dark comedy about a cantankerous ex-cop and the hard-luck orphans who become his surrogate family.

The Pulitzer for general nonfiction went to *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History*, Elizabeth Kolbert's exploration of the impact of human behavior on the natural world. David I. Kertzer's *The Pope and Mussolini: The Secret History of Pius XI and the Rise of Fascism in Europe* won for biography-autobiography. *Encounters at the Heart of the World: A History of the Mandan People*, by Elizabeth A. Fenn, won for history.

Gregory Pardlo's *Digest* captured the poetry prize, and Julia Wolfe's *Anthrax Fields* won for music.

AC/DC drummer Phil Rudd pleads guilty to threatening to kill

TAURANGA, New Zealand (AP)—AC/DC drummer Phil Rudd pleaded guilty in a New Zealand court Tuesday to a charge of threatening to kill a man who used to work for him. He also pleaded guilty to possessing methamphetamine and marijuana.

Rudd faces up to seven years in prison on the threatening to kill charge, although his lawyer Craig Tuck said the prosecution case boils down to an angry phone call, and he is seeking a remedy that would involve no legal consequences for Rudd.

Rudd acknowledged in a court summary of facts that he'd offered large amounts of cash, vehicles and a house to an associate after asking him to have the victim "taken out" and that he'd also directly said to the victim he was going to kill him.

The 60-year-old drummer was released on bail pending a June sentencing hearing.

Rudd arrived at the Tauranga court house in a sports car wearing sunglasses and a red tie, and

didn't say anything during his brief appearance other than to enter his guilty pleas.

It's unclear whether Rudd has a future with the Australian rock band he's been part of on-and-off for almost four decades. The band intends to use Welsh drummer Chris Slade for its upcoming "Rock or Bust" album tour but hasn't said if that's a long-term arrangement.

By agreeing with prosecutors to enter the guilty pleas, Rudd avoided the need for a trial which was due to begin Tuesday. Prosecutors agreed to drop a second charge of threatening to kill. Earlier, citing a lack of evidence, prosecutors had dropped a murder-for-hire charge.

According to the court summary, the dispute began in August on the night that Rudd released his solo album, "Head Job."

Rudd threw a party at his marina restaurant, Phil's Place, to celebrate the launch. He was the toast of the town that night, and even the mayor of Tau-



AC/DC drummer Phil Rudd, right, arrives at a court in Tauranga, New Zealand Tuesday, April 21, 2015.

ranga attended. But as the night progressed, Rudd became concerned that security wasn't tight enough.

"The defendant was angry that the album launch did not go well," the court summary said. "As a result he sacked a number of people from his employment and professional team. This included, among other people, the victim who he was particularly angry with."

About four weeks later, Rudd called an associate, who was on vacation in Australia. Rudd told the man he wanted the victim "taken out," according to the court summary. When asked to clarify, Rudd said he wanted the victim "taken care of."

In another call, according to the court summary, Rudd offered the associate "\$200,000, a motorbike, one of his cars or a house," which the associate

took to mean as payment "for carrying out his earlier request."

Two hundred thousand New Zealand dollars is equivalent to about \$153,000 U.S. dollars.

The morning after calling his associate, Rudd called the victim directly, saying "I'm going to come over and kill you," according to the court summary. He tried to call the victim again a couple of times after that but the man didn't pick up.

"As a result of threats made by the defendant, the victim was genuinely very fearful of his safety," the summary of facts stated.

The summary also outlines the Nov. 6 search of Rudd's home when police found the drugs. When police arrived, Rudd was wearing jeans but no shirt, according to the summary. "While being spoken to by the police, the defendant reached out to move a container containing cannabis crumbs from the coffee table and place it on the floor out of sight," the summary says.

Police found methamphetamine in Rudd's jeans pocket and in his bedroom and mari-

juana in several places, according to the court summary. In all, police found 0.48 grams (0.02 ounces) of methamphetamine and 91 grams (3.2 ounces) of marijuana, according to the summary.

Tuck said he would be seeking a discharge without conviction in the case.

An unusual loophole in New Zealand law gives a judge the discretion not to enter a conviction even in cases where a defendant has pleaded guilty. A judge can do this if he or she thinks the consequences of a conviction outweigh the seriousness of the crime, a move which can allow a defendant to keep a clean record.

The judge in the case, Robert Wolff, said he would not enter a conviction against Rudd before hearing Tuck's arguments.

Tuck, a human rights lawyer who has acted for Rudd before, took over the case after Rudd dropped his previous attorney, Paul Mabey.

Tuck said the case had done enormous damage to Rudd's reputation and he was looking into legal remedies for that.

Bobby Brown's lawyer: Bobbi Kristina Brown has opened eyes

ATLANTA (AP)—Bobby Brown's lawyer issued a statement Monday saying the singer's daughter has "opened her eyes" nearly three months after being found unresponsive in a bathtub in her Georgia home.

Attorney Christopher Brown said he issued the statement to clarify comments the singer made during a concert over the weekend about his daughter's condition. The statement goes on to say that "there has been improvement" in her condition.

However, it also adds that Bobbi Kristina Brown is just now beginning rehabilitation "and the quality of her life will not be known for years to come."

Bobbi Kristina Brown is the only child of Bobby Brown and the late Whitney Houston.

Houston was found face-down and unresponsive in about a foot of water in a bathtub in a Beverly Hills hotel room Feb. 11, 2012, just before the Grammys. She later died, and authorities



AP
In this Feb. 18, 2012 file photo, singer Bobby Brown, former husband of the late Whitney Houston performs with New Edition at Mohegan Sun Casino in Uncasville, Conn.

Etheredge-Brown, added in the statement that during the concert, Brown "made an attempt to correct the negative com-

ments he must endure on a daily basis from both family and the public regarding his daughter's medical condition."

"He is encouraged by the steps that Bobbi Kristina has made since her hospitalization on January 31, 2015," Etheredge-Brown said. "She has made it out of ICU, opened her eyes, and started a rehabilitation that will be long and hard."

HBO planning to deal Web pot sitcom 'High Maintenance'

NEW YORK (AP)—HBO says it's going to pot by scoring the Web comedy series "High Maintenance."

The network said Monday it will premiere six new episodes of the series, which centers on a Brooklyn, New York, marijuana dealer who delivers his wares to a variety of offbeat clients.

Highly acclaimed in its current home on the Vimeo website, the stash of 19 previous ep-

isodes of "High Maintenance" will also be available on HBO later this year.

The series is created and written by the married duo Katja Blichfeld and Ben Sinclair, who stars as the friendly pot dealer.

The couple says they've been "growing this show organically" as a Web presence in preparation for its upcoming transplant to premium cable.

Willie Nelson becomes latest celebrity in marijuana business

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)—Country music star Willie Nelson announced plans Monday to roll out his own brand of marijuana, capitalizing on his association with pot and the unofficial stoner holiday, 4/20.

The move makes the 81-year-old "Roll Me Up and Smoke Me When I Die" singer the latest celebrity to jump into the marijuana marketplace.

"Willie's Reserve" will be grown and sold in Colorado and Washington, where recreational pot is legal. Nelson said in a statement that he's "looking forward to working with the best growers in Colorado and Washington to make sure our product is the best on the market."

Nelson joins other famous pot personalities, including rapper Snoop Dogg, who endorses vaporizing products; singer Melissa Etheridge, developing marijuana-infused wine; and re-

ality TV star and self-help guru Bethenny Frankel, who is working on a strain of Skinnygirl weed that wouldn't leave users with the munchies.

"Like other industries, branding and creative marketing is a big part of supporting legal cannabis products," said Vicki Christophersen, director of the Washington CannaBusiness Association.

Christophersen said these connections continue a long tradition of celebrities endorsing the use of marijuana—even decades before it became legal for adult use.

Nelson, who was not available for comment Monday, is among those with well-established connections to cannabis. He's been a decriminalization advocate and has been busted for pot possession several times. He also appeared in the stoner comedy "Half Baked."

Washington and Colorado

ties concluded she had accidentally drowned. Investigators found a dozen prescription-drug bottles in the suite and listed

heart disease and cocaine use as contributors to her death.

On Saturday night, an emotional Bobby Brown told

concertgoers that Bobbi Kristina was "awake" and "she is watching me."

Bobby Brown's wife, Alicia

made pot legal for adult use in 2012. Oregon, Alaska and the District of Columbia also have removed legal restrictions, and more states are expected to vote on legalization next year.

The moves have created marketing opportunities, but links to celebrity smokers aren't always considered a positive.

This year, the National Cannabis Industry Association decided to drop actor Tommy Chong—co-star of the "Cheech and Chong" comedy team—as it prepared to lobby Congress for pot-friendly regulations. The group wanted to move past the stoner stereotypes they say Chong represents in favor of positioning pot as similar to fine wine.

Others see it differently, however.

Chong has an endorsement deal with Marisol Therapeutics, a pot shop in Pueblo, Colorado, that sells a strain in his name.

Singer Sam Hunt rising in both country and pop worlds

NEW YORK (AP)—Rising country star Sam Hunt may be finding success on the pop charts, but don't fret—he won't pull a Taylor Swift.

"By no means do I want to try to leave country music," Hunt said in a recent interview. "That's absolutely where I want to stay."

Hunt has dominated the country music charts and is steadily crossing over into the pop world: His debut single, "Leave the Night On," hit No. 1 on Billboard's Hot Country Songs chart, and his current single, "Take Your Time," is spending its 10th week atop of the chart. Both songs have reached platinum status and cracked the Top 40 on the pop charts; "Take Your Time" has even peaked at No. 20 on the Hot 100.

"I don't have any problem

with the music reaching more and more people through whatever outlet allows that," Hunt said. "I think it's fantastic that pop stations are picking up the song."

Country radio has rewarded Hunt for his diverse, genre-bending sound that fuses elements of R&B, hip-hop and electronica with country. He's also a respected songwriter who co-penned hits like Kenny Chesney's "Come Over," Keith Urban's "Cop Car" and Billy Currington's "We Are Tonight."

The former quarterback for both Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Alabama at Birmingham grew up in Cedartown, Georgia, and said he drew inspiration from Atlanta-based R&B acts like Usher and TLC, in ad-

dition to country singers.

Hunt's look isn't typical country either: The chiseled, bearded 30-year-old is usually seen rocking a fitted cap and trendy clothes that mirror Drake and Chris Brown.

Hunt believes his unique sound has helped him win on country radio. Some of his songs, like "Take Your Time," feature his signature talk-sing delivery.

"It's different enough to have inspired people to not just listen to that song, but to go buy the record and see what the record has to offer," he said. "When it comes on the radio, it's a song that kind of catches people off guard."

"Sam is going to be a superstar," Darius Rucker said in a recent interview. "I love what he's doing. He's doing something so unique and different."

Girl who lost her virginity must learn to protect herself

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 17-year-old girl. Last weekend I lost my virginity in the back seat of a stranger's car. I feel guilty about it and I haven't told anyone. I'm not sure if he has.

I need some advice on whether I should be making a big deal out of it, or just ignore it and move on.

ANXIOUS IN OHIO

DEAR ANXIOUS: Please don't ignore it. You treated your first time like it was something casual, and that is sad. It IS a "big deal," not only because of what it indicates about your level of self-esteem, but also because you don't know whether you have been exposed to an STD. Did the boy use a condom?

Mature girls know to protect themselves when engaging in sexual activity. It is important that you be checked by a gynecologist for STDs and learn about effective birth control. If you don't have a doctor you can confide in, Planned Parenthood can help you.

DEAR ABBY: I find myself in an interesting situation that I never thought could happen. I'm a 43-year-old gay male who had an extremely difficult time coming out when I was 19. My parents weren't initially supportive, but things did get better down

the line.

I have had zero luck at any long-term gay relationships, but as I get older, my sex drive has diminished, and I think I'd be happy with a female companion—if sex wasn't a factor. What should I do?

INTERESTING CONDITION IN TEXAS

DEAR CONDITION: Gay men marrying straight women is not an unheard-of phenomenon, and neither are marriages in which sex is not a part of the picture. It could work out well if you find someone with common interests and a high level of compatibility—as long as the lady clearly understands that you are gay and doesn't harbor the fantasy that she can "change" you.

DEAR ABBY: My friends often come to me for advice. It could be anything—relationship, family, self-harm or bullying. It's usually something I don't know how to deal with and don't have experience with. I try to say words of encouragement like, "It'll be OK. Ignore it. Think on the bright side. Don't be so hard on yourself."

I know these are things they have heard before and will ignore, but I don't know what else to say or do. These people are more outgoing than I am, so I guess it makes them targets.

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Abby, what can I do?

D. IN KANSAS

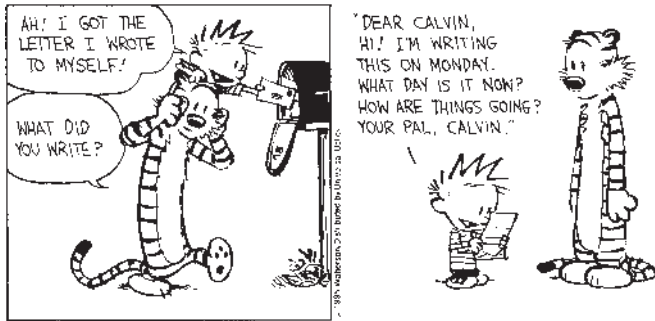
DEAR D.: It's all right to be encouraging, but when someone asks for advice you know you're not qualified to give, you should be upfront, admit it, and suggest the person talk to an adult. This is particularly important when the problem concerns things like self-harm or bullying, which may need an intervention.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

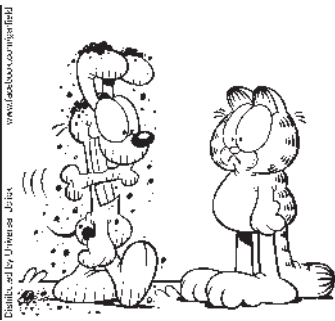
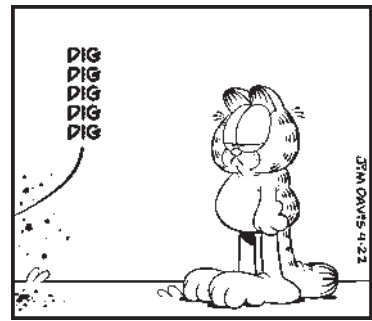
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



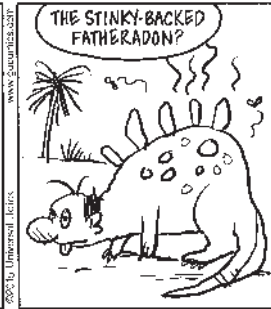
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



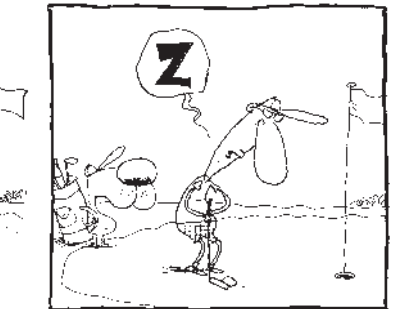
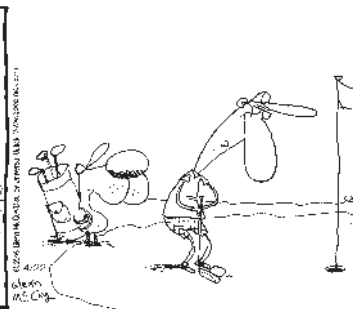
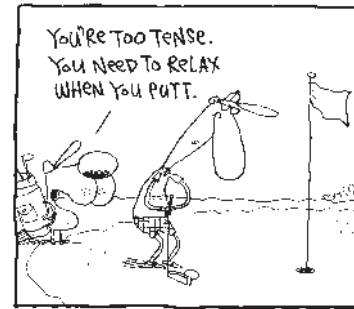
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

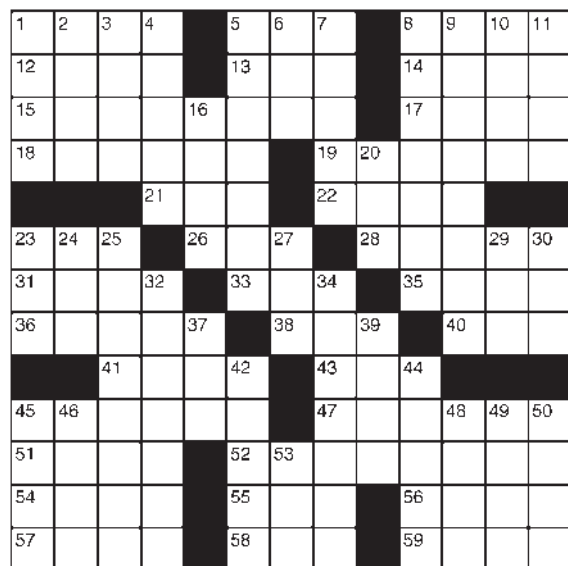
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Dodge model
5 Lunch order
8 Open a crack
12 Fork option
13 Bruce or Brenda
14 Glazier's sheet
15 Economic saves
17 Pocket bread
18 All over the place
19 Steering lever
21 Roulette bet
22 Impale
23 Cauldron
26 Family room
28 Hotel offering
31 Historic times
33 Clergyman's address
35 See 34-Down
36 Anxiety
- DOWN**
- 38 Durable wood
40 Pair on stage
41 Easter symbol
43 CSA soldier
45 Rancher
47 Vacillate
51 Botanical angle
52 Guaranteed work
54 Kelly or Wilder
55 Army member
56 Shrek is one
57 Make — meet
58 Shaft of light
59 Snatched
- 24 Assoc.**
25 Nature's way of hastening a flight
27 Modern (Pref.)
29 Greek cross
30 Id counterpart
32 Horses' housing
34 With 35-Across, 1927 melody
37 Latin 101 word
39 Howard of musicals
42 Considerably
44 Muddle with drink
45 "Left Behind" actor
46 The yoke's on them
48 Palm type
49 Frizzy 'do
50 Seven days
53 Santa —, Calif.

Solution time: 23 mins.



Yesterday's answer 4-22



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Amber Heard, 29; Sherri Shepherd, 48; Jack Nicholson, 78; Glen Campbell, 79.

Happy Birthday: Be realistic. Don't let anyone fast-talk you into a plan that isn't likely to work for you. Excess will lead to disappointment. Someone from your past will let you down again if given the chance. Put your energy into learning something that will help you get ahead personally or professionally. Business trips or attending conferences will lead to an opportunity. Your numbers are 8, 15, 19, 21, 26, 35, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take care of personal paperwork, taxes and other pressing contractual, medical or financial matters that are hanging over your head. Personal changes to your appearance or an important relationship will bring you satisfaction and happiness. Romance is highlighted. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Tidy up loose ends. Make changes that allow you to benefit financially. Cutting corners or spending less on things you don't need will help ease your stress and get you back on track. A problem from your past will surface. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll be faced with an unusual dilemma, or you will discover someone hasn't been truthful with you. Keep your thoughts to yourself until you have all your facts straight. Personal changes will help take your mind off a stressful situation. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A secret matter will turn into a fiasco if you aren't careful about handling information or

dealing with a colleague. Don't make an impulsive move that has the potential to take up your time and cost you financially. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You won't see situations clearly. Reacting too quickly or making a big deal out of nothing will result in a dispute. Challenge yourself physically or do something for the benefit of your community, children or an older friend or relative. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Channel your energy into honing your skills and learning and discovering information that will give you an edge. Network with people who have something to offer in return. Don't let your personal life slow down your productivity. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get together with people you have worked with in the past, or join forces with someone who has something to contribute to one of your pursuits. Love is on the rise, and romance will enhance your personal life. Believe in you. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Communication problems will arise. Someone is likely to overreact or embellish the information shared. Don't act on hearsay, or you may end up involved in a situation that can put a damper on your reputation. Focus on honing a skill. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can get ahead financially if you stick to a strict budget. Don't be tempted by a fast-talking salesperson trying to profit at your expense. Moderation will be a must if you want to reduce stress. Make simple but effective changes. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can make changes, but do your homework and do things right. Don't be swayed by someone you are trying to impress. Speak from the heart, and you will grab the attention of someone who will offer guidance and support. ★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Problems will arise if you get involved in community disputes. Remaining neutral will give you an edge. Focus on your home, family and what's most important to you. Romance and family activities should be high on your to-do list. ★★★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't back down or give in. Avoid interacting with people who don't share your beliefs. An emotional matter will escalate if you interfere in a friend or relative's personal problems. Be a good listener, but don't share your opinions. ★★

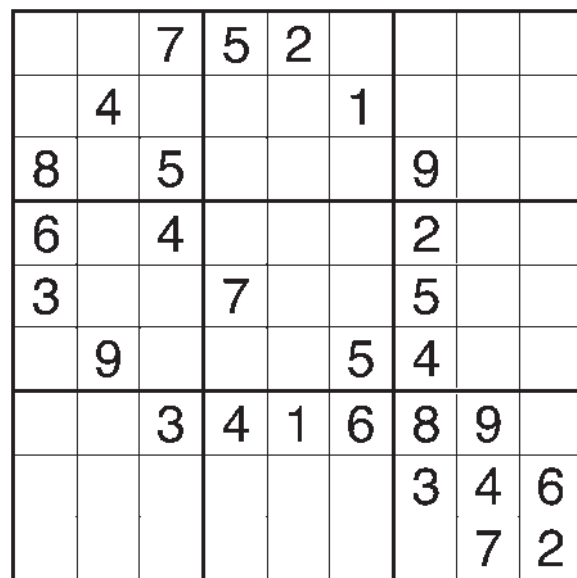


Birthday Baby: You are possessive, steadfast and patient. You are materialistic and goal-oriented. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

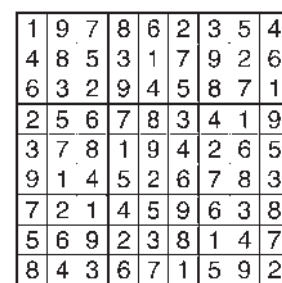


Difficulty Level ★★

4/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



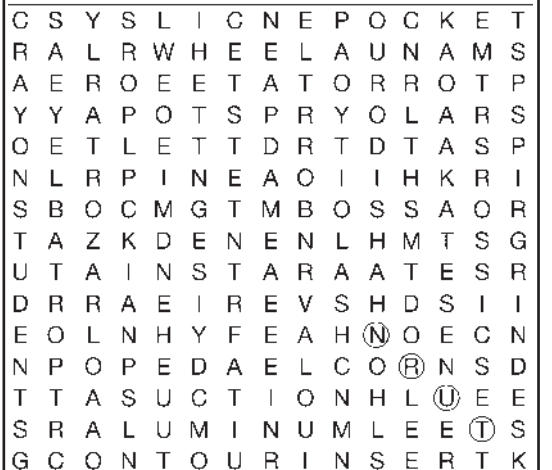
WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SHARPENERS

Solution: 6 letters



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Aluminum, Artists, Battery, Blade, Carpenters, Case, Contour, Crayons, Desk, Empty, Graphite, Grind, Grip, Hole, Hones, Insert, Knife, Lead, Manual, Mold, Motor, Pencils, Planetary, Plastic, Pocket, Portable, Prism, Razor, Realign, Ridged, Rotate, Scissors, Sharp, Shave, Stationary, Steel, Stones, Students, Suction, Teacher, Tools, Turn, Wheel
Yesterday's Answer: Signs
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For consideration, mail resume to Spring Valley, POB 501120, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than April 27th.

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ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, : **CIVIL ACTION**
Plaintiff, : **NO. 13-0069**
-v- :
ROY ROGER KAIPAT and :
CASILDA I. KAIPAT, :
Defendants. :

SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 14, 2014, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot no. 011 G 1322, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey's Official Cadastral Plat no. 011 G 24, dated December 9, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 96-2567, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, May 22, 2015, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
VACANT PROPERTIES - PORT OF SAIPAN
CPA-RFP-002-15
APRIL 16, 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY IS ACCEPTING SEALED PROPOSALS, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (THE "RFP") AND OTHER CONTRACT PROVISIONS, FOR AWARDED A LEASE CONTRACT FOR ONE, TWO AND/OR THREE REAL PROPERTY LEASES ON AUTHORITY PROPERTY ON SAIPAN, IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. THE AUTHORITY HAS THREE (3) VACANT PROPERTY LOTS AVAILABLE FOR LEASE IN AN AREA ZONED FOR COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL.

THIS RFP IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 40-50, PROCUREMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS OF TITLE 40 OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (THE "NMIAC"). TITLE 40, INCLUDING CHAPTER 40-50-225, **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**, IS APPLICABLE TO THE PROCESS FOLLOWED BY THE RFP.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROPERTY DETAILS CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR – ARRIVAL TERMINAL AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING APRIL 22, 2015, BETWEEN 7:30 A.M. AND 4:30 P.M.

PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE AUTHORITY AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR – ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM ON **JUNE 8TH, 2015**.

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/s/ By: MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
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Warriors beat Pelicans 97-87 to take 2-0 series lead



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Klay Thompson scored 26 points, Stephen Curry had 22 points and six assists and the Golden State Warriors regrouped from an early deficit to beat the New Orleans Pelicans 97-87 on Monday night and take a 2-0 lead in their first-round series.

The top-seeded Warriors fell behind by 13 points in the first quarter after a strong start by Anthony Davis and Eric Gordon quieted an announced sell-out crowd of 19,596 wearing golden yellow shirts. But a big burst before halftime pushed the Warriors ahead, and they did just enough in the closing moments to put away the pesky Pelicans.

Game 3 of the best-of-seven series is Thursday night in New Orleans.

Davis had 26 points and 10 rebounds, and Gordon scored 23 points for the Pelicans who played with more poise and passion against than they did in the series opener.

In the end, the Warriors were just better when it mattered most.

Draymond Green's alley-oop pass to Andre Iguodala highlighted a 10-2 run for the Warriors to start the fourth quarter. That put them ahead 81-73 with 9 minutes to play.

Davis pulled the Pelicans within one before Green and center Andrew Bogut—Golden State's defensive stoppers—propelled the Warriors to another late spurt. Thompson converted a running bank shot over Gordon to start a three-point play, and Bogut followed with a two-handed slam to give Golden State a 97-86 lead with 1:02 left.

The Warriors have won 20 straight games and 41 of 43 at home this season. Their last loss at Oracle Arena came against Chicago in overtime on Jan. 27.

New Orleans shook off all those marks—and all the pregame chatter—to nearly pull off a playoff surprise.

Pelicans coach Monty Williams riled up the Warriors' vocal fan base before the morning shootaround, saying the decibel level at Oracle Arena might not be legal. Williams later said he meant it more as a compliment and didn't mean to suggest the Warriors were breaking any rules.

Fans seemed to pounce on Williams' words. Chants of "War-ri-ors!" drowned out the Pelicans during pregame introductions, but they figured out a way to control the crowd: get off to a fast start.

New Orleans made five of its first six shots and got big contributions from Gordon and Davis to go ahead 28-17 after the first quarter. Reserve guard Leandro Barbosa (12 points) brought the Warriors back in the second quarter, though Pelicans reserve Norris Cole countered with



AP
Golden State Warriors' Klay Thompson (11) dunks past New Orleans Pelicans' Dante Cunningham (44) during the second half in Game 2 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series Monday, April 20, 2015, in Oakland, Calif.

some big shots of his own.

Of course, the Pelicans struggled to corral Curry and Thompson in the key moments. They helped the Warriors outscore New Orleans 38-24 in the second quarter, with Curry capping the run with a deep 3-pointer to give Golden State a 55-52 half-time lead.

The Warriors went up by nine early in the third quarter but struggled to pull away more. The teams were tied 71-all entering the fourth quarter.

Bulls 91, Bucks 82

In Chicago, Jimmy Butler set a playoff career-high for the second straight game with 31

points, and the Chicago Bulls beat the Milwaukee Bucks 91-82 on Monday night to take a 2-0 lead in their first-round series.

After scoring 25 points in Game 1, Butler trumped that with another terrific performance. He was at his best down the stretch, scoring 14 points in the fourth quarter.

Chicago's Derrick Rose scored all of his 15 points in the second half after dominating in the series opener.

Pau Gasol added 11 points and 16 rebounds and Mike Dunleavy Jr. scored 12 points as the third-seeded Bulls grabbed a commanding lead in the series.

Game 3 is Thursday at

Milwaukee.

Khris Middleton led the sixth-seeded Bucks with 22 points, and Michael Carter-Williams scored 12.

The Bulls were trailing 74-71 early in the fourth when Butler started a 13-0 run with a 3-pointer.

He drove along the right side for a vicious two-handed dunk on Zaza Pachulia and hit the free throw to complete the three-point play. Butler finished the run with another 3, giving Chicago an 84-74 lead with 6:01 remaining.

Pachulia was ejected with 2:48 left in the game after he and Chicago's Nikola Mirotic shoved each other on the court while going for a loose ball. Middleton then hit a jumper to pull Milwaukee within seven points with just over 2 minutes left, but Rose sealed the win when he scored with 55 seconds left to make it 91-82.

Rose missed his first seven shots after scoring 23 points in his first playoff game since 2012 and was 4 of 14 overall. He finally nailed an open 3 early in the third and scored 12 in the quarter.

Little guys will need to come up big for Celtics, Mavs

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

While LeBron James and his star-studded supporting cast were firing away at underdog Boston in Game 1 of their Eastern Conference playoff series, the smallest guy on the court for the Celtics was putting up the biggest fight.

In the first playoff game of his career, 5-foot-9 Isaiah Thomas went right at the mighty Cleveland Cavaliers. He led Boston with 22 points and 10 assists in the 113-100 defeat, and represents the overmatched Celtics' best chance to make this a series.

"He's a scoring threat at all times," said James, whose Cavaliers will try to take a 2-0 lead in the series on Tuesday. "Our antennas need to be up when he comes into the game. His ability to make shots, to get into the lane, to get to the free throw line, we should always pay attention to him when he comes into the game. He raises their level as far as their tempo. It goes up when he comes into the game. We have to be very, very conscious about when he enters the game."

Thomas is one of a handful of small combo guards should-

ering big loads for their teams in the playoffs.

When the Mavericks play at Houston in Game 2 on Tuesday night, Monta Ellis will have to do better than 16 points on 16 shots if Dallas hopes to even the series. The Washington Wizards take a 1-0 lead into Game 2 of their series against the Raptors in Toronto in the third playoff game on Tuesday night.

Elsewhere, Jamal Crawford of the Los Angeles Clippers, Jarrett Jack in Brooklyn and Aaron Brooks with the Bulls can change the complexion of their team's offense with a hot streak.

Here's a look at the three NBA playoff games Tuesday (all times EDT):

■ ■ ■
Celtics at Cavaliers, Cavaliers lead 1-0, Game 2, 7 p.m., TNT

All the intrigue at the start of the series centered on how LeBron James' supporting cast—namely, Kevin Love and Kyrie Irving—would respond to their first playoff experience.

After a frantic start, James told an assistant coach during a timeout that they just needed to take a deep breath.

"They've never experienced this before," James said

with a smile.

Once they settled down, the Cavs took off. Irving scored 30 points and Love had 19 points and 12 rebounds in the 113-100 victory. Now that they have that first one under their belts, the Celtics really have their work cut out for them.

And it doesn't just stop with Cleveland's three stars. Role players like James Jones and Tristan Thompson did the dirty work and were a big part of the Cavs' 34-9 finish to the regular season.

"It's like a company," Thompson said. "You have your janitor, your CEO. You have your secretaries," said Thompson, who said his job is to bring energy as a reserve. "I don't mind being the cleanup guy, punching the clock. I'll do all the little things."

■ ■ ■
Wizards at Raptors, Wizards lead 1-0, Game 2, 8 p.m., NBATV

One game into the series and the Raptors have already lost homecourt advantage after dropping the opener in overtime in front of their rowdy fans.

"The pressure is on us to come and produce in Game 2," coach Dwane Casey said.

"Anytime you lose a game you kind of put the monkey on your back."

The Raptors shot just 38 percent in the opener and starting point guard Kyle Lowry fouled out after scoring seven points on 2-for-10 shooting. But a lot of the focus was on James Johnson, a rugged defender who did not play in Game 1.

As Wizards veteran Paul Pierce scored 20 points and made 7 of 10 shots, Raptors fans started chanting "We want James!" in hopes he could put Pierce in check. But Casey didn't play him.

"It's not a backup quarterback controversy," Casey said. "James has been in this role the whole year. There's going to be a time and place for him in the playoffs."

And although Wizards star John Wall scored only 10 points on 5-for-18 shooting, he said he felt right at home in his second postseason. No more nerves for him. Those were taken care of in his first series last year.

"I wasn't really nervous this time," Wall said. "Last year I was because it was my first time and we didn't play on (national) TV in so long. It was fun. I was ready to get it going. I wasn't really nervous. I think both

teams looked nervous because we couldn't make (any) shots. Other than that, it was cool."

■ ■ ■
Mavericks at Rockets, Rockets lead 1-0, Game 2, 9:30 p.m., TNT

The Mavericks lost Game 1, and may have lost one of their key players as well. Forward Chandler Parsons was running gingerly on the knee that kept him out of the final six games of the regular season.

Parsons scored 10 points on 5-for-15 shooting and is listed as questionable for Game 2. He did not practice on Monday.

"There may not be an update until right before the game when we submit all of our stuff," coach Rick Carlisle said. "That's where we are right now."

Losing Parsons would be a big blow for a Mavericks team that hums on offense when the versatile small forward is in the lineup. His ability to spread the floor and get out in transition is a big part of what the Mavericks do when they're at their best.

The Rockets are very familiar with Parsons' skills. He spent his first three seasons in Houston before leaving for big money last summer.

White Sox rally for 4-3 victory over Indians



CHICAGO
(AP) — Melky Cabrera capped Chicago's four-run ninth inning with an RBI single off Cody Allen, sending the White Sox to a 4-3 victory over the Cleveland Indians on Monday night.

Six consecutive batters reached safely before Cabrera drove a fastball into left-center for the game-ending hit. Alexei Ramirez doubled home two runs and Gordon Beckham had a tying RBI single.

David Robertson (1-0) worked a perfect ninth for his first win with the White Sox. Allen (0-2) recorded just one out in his first blown save in four chances.

Chicago had managed just four hits before the big finish.

Trevor Bauer pitched seven sparkling innings for Cleveland, which has dropped seven of nine. Ryan Raburn and Brett Hayes homered, and Michael Brantley had an RBI double.

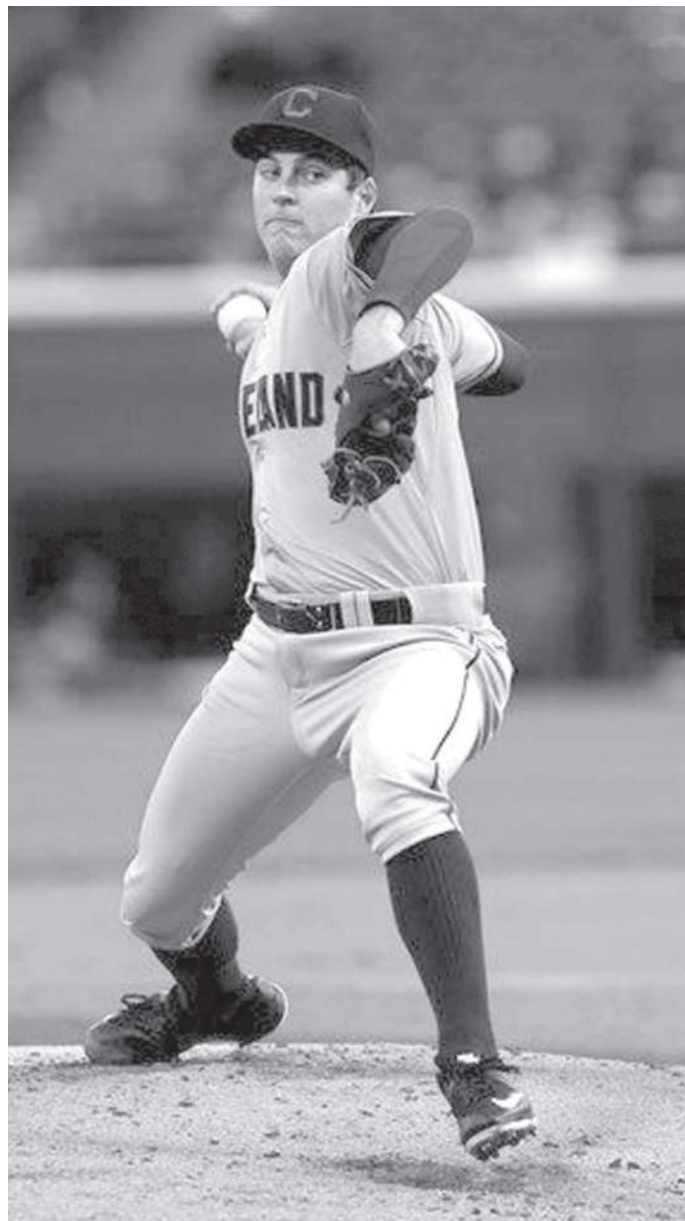
Red Sox 7, Orioles 1, 6 1/2 innings, rain

In Boston, Justin Masterson benefited from five unearned runs as Boston beat Baltimore in a soggy Patriots' Day game shortened by rain.

The first pitch was thrown at 11:04 a.m. under cloudy skies on the Massachusetts holiday after Boston Marathon runners already were on the course that passes close by Fenway Park. Rain began falling steadily in the fourth and intensified, and the game was called after a 1-hour, 42-minute wait.

With the score tied at 1, Boston scored four runs in the third when Wei-Yin Chen (0-1) walked four and made an error, and third baseman Manny Machado committed another error.

Masterson (2-0) allowed one run, three hits and three walks in



AP
Cleveland Indians starting pitcher Trevor Bauer delivers during the first inning of an baseball game against the Chicago White Sox on Monday, April, 20, 2015, in Chicago.

five innings with six strikeouts.

Cubs 5, Pirates 2

In Pittsburgh, Kris Bryant turned his tiebreaking two-run double into a homer with some heads-up baserunning, and the star rookie had three hits and three RBIs to lead Chicago.

Bryant's double off Arquimedes Camninerio (0-1) hit off the base of the left-center field fence in the seventh inning and snapped a 1-all tie. He advanced

to third base on the throw home, and raced across the plate when catcher Francisco Cervelli missed the throw for an error.

Bryant, who tied the game with an RBI single in the fifth, is 6 for 14 (.429) with four RBIs in four games since his much-anticipated callup from Triple-A Iowa on Friday. He was a spring training sensation, hitting nine home runs in 40 at-bats for the Cubs.

Jake Arrieta (2-1) allowed

only one run and three hits in seven innings for the win while striking out seven and walking none.

Tigers 2, Yankees 1

In Detroit, J.D. Martinez and Yoenis Cespedes hit consecutive RBI singles in the seventh inning, and Joba Chamberlain got Jacoby Ellsbury to hit into a crucial double play in the eighth, helping Detroit beat New York.

CC Sabathia (0-3) faced the minimum number of hitters through the first six innings, but with two out and a man on second in the seventh, the Yankees intentionally walked Victor Martinez. J.D. Martinez followed with a sharp single that shortstop Didi Gregorius was unable to keep in the infield, and Cespedes' single scored Martinez.

The Yankees had men on first and third with one out in the eighth when Chamberlain relieved Alfredo Simon (3-0). Ellsbury's hard grounder went right to second baseman Ian Kinsler, and the double play ended the threat.

Joakim Soria pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

Royals 7, Twins 1

In Kansas City, Missouri, Edinson Volquez dodged trouble for seven innings as Kansas City scored two runs on wild pitches before pounding bumblin' Minnesota.

Alcides Escobar returned from a sprained knee to score a run, and Kendrys Morales and Paulo Orlando drove in a pair each as the Royals finally figured out Twins nemesis Kyle Gibson.

The right-hander gave up four runs in five-plus innings. Gibson (1-2) had earned the win in his first four starts against Kansas City, including a dominant performance in a 3-1 victory last week at Target Field.

Volquez (2-1) was more

than his match Monday night at Kauffman Stadium. He allowed five hits while striking out five with only one walk, wiggling out of jams whenever he got into them.

Reds 6, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Anthony Desclafani pitched eight shutout innings and Zach Cozart and Joey Votto homered to lead Cincinnati.

Desclafani (2-0) held Milwaukee hitless until Adam Lind's double with two outs in the fourth. Hector Gomez's fifth-inning single was the only other hit off Desclafani, who struck out five and ran his scoreless innings streak to 15.

Desclafani and Milwaukee starter Wily Peralta (0-2) were locked in a scoreless battle through five innings. The Reds got to Peralta in the sixth. Brayan Pena drove in the game's first run with a sacrifice fly and Cozart followed with a three-run homer.

Votto added a two-run homer in the seventh off Peralta.

Ryan Braun homered with one out in the ninth for the Brewers.

Padres 14, Rockies 3

In Denver, Matt Kemp had three hits and four RBIs as San Diego scored nine runs in the first two innings and went on to win for the fifth time in six games.

Derek Norris had three of San Diego's 17 hits, Will Venable homered and Odriamer Despaigne got his first major league hit.

For the second time this season every Padres starter got a hit, including Despaigne (2-0), who led off the third with a single. It was more than enough for the Cuban right-hander, who allowed just two runs on six hits in 6 2-3 innings.

Rockies starter Jorge De La Rosa struggled in his 2015 debut, lasting two innings. The left-hander missed the first

two weeks of the season with a left groin strain and was activated from the disabled list before the game.

Athletics 6, Angels 3

In Anaheim, California, Stephen Vogt hit a go-ahead three-run homer, Marcus Semien also went deep against Matt Shoemaker and Oakland won the opener of a four-game series.

Athletics right-hander Kendall Graveman was staked to a 5-3 lead in his third major league start, but lasted just three-plus innings. Manager Bob Melvin pulled him after he walked Erick Aybar and C.J. Cron to open the fourth and ran his pitch count up to 73.

Dan Otero (1-1) retired the next three batters and gave up just one hit over a career-high four innings. He has not allowed a run in 13 career appearances against the Angels, spanning 19 2-3 innings.

Tyler Clippard got the last three outs for his first American League save and 35th of his career.

Shoemaker (2-1) threw 68 pitches in three-plus innings, giving up five runs and seven hits.

Astros 7, Mariners 5

In Seattle, Luis Valbuena hit two solo home runs, including a go-ahead eighth-inning shot, to help Houston beat Seattle.

Valbuena, who started the scoring with a blast in the first inning, opened the eighth with a homer to right on 1-1 pitch from Danny Farquhar (0-1). It was his fifth this season.

It was the first home run allowed by a Mariners reliever this season. Jed Lowrie added an RBI single in the inning.

Colby Rasmus also had his second home run on a 2-0 pitch from starter Hisashi Iwakuma in the fifth.

Tony Sipp (1-0), who worked the seventh and eighth, picked up the victory.

Eagles sign quarterback Tim Tebow to 1-year contract



PHILADELPHIA
(AP)—Tebowmania swept through Philly before Tim Tebow's return to the NFL even became official.

By the time the Philadelphia Eagles announced late Monday afternoon that Tebow signed a one-year contract, the city was buzzing about Chip Kelly's latest move. Tebow dominated newspaper headlines, social media conversation and sports talk radio. A pretzel factory even made "Tebowing" shaped pretzels.

Some fans applauded the move, while others claimed Kelly lost his mind. Talk show hosts debated the signing and questioned everything about Tebow from his passing skills to his faith and intelligence.

"Chip doesn't care what the

outside world is going to say about it," former Eagles All-Pro safety Brian Dawkins, who played with Tebow in Denver, said on a local radio station. "He's going to come to the facility and work his behind off. He's gonna push you and push himself to get better."

Neither Kelly nor Tebow was available for comment. A team spokesman said that won't happen until the Eagles hold organized team activities next month.

Tebow will wear No. 11. His jersey already was listed for sale on the team's website.

Tebow gets his first shot in the NFL since the New England Patriots cut him before the 2013 season. The 2007 Heisman Trophy winner hasn't played since 2012 with the New York Jets. He worked as a television ana-



AP
In this Dec. 5, 2014, file photo, Tim Tebow speaks during an SEC television broadcast in Atlanta.

lyst last year with the SEC Network and ESPN.

"Tim developed quickly into an excellent analyst. He has a home at ESPN when his playing career is done," said John Wildhack, ESPN executive vice president, programming and production.

The 27-year-old quarterback is still highly popular after leading Florida to two national titles and spending two seasons with the Denver Broncos. Many fans follow Tebow because of his strong Christian beliefs.

The Eagles already have four other quarterbacks on their roster: Sam Bradford, Mark Sanchez, Matt Barkley and G.J. Kinne. Tebow is expected to compete for the No. 3 spot in an offense that's suited to his strengths. Kelly, known for innovative schemes, certainly will

try to find other ways to use him, too.

Tebow could be worked into the offense for zone-read plays, short-yardage and goal-line situations and conversions. If the NFL changes extra-point rules, Tebow could become a specialist.

Tebow had some success in Denver, including a playoff win over Pittsburgh in January 2012, but struggled with accuracy. He was known for running the ball and improvising.

He worked with former major league pitcher Tom House on improving his mechanics. Kelly must've seen improvement when the Eagles worked him out last month.

Kelly has had one of the busiest offseasons in the NFL, bringing in Tebow, Bradford and running back DeMarco Murray, while trading away Nick Foles, LeSean McCoy and allowing Jeremy Maclin to leave in free agency.

Celis walk-off single lifts Kagboys

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

J.P. Celis connected on a two-RBI walk-off single to drive in the winning run in the Kagboys' 8-7 victory over the Little Legals in the Majors division of the Saipan Little League last Sunday at the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan ballfield.

Celis, with one out and their team trailing 7-6, drove in Ray Ray Babauta and Justin Agulto to seal the Kagboys' win.

The Kagboys were down 7-5, when Andrew Sablan, leading off in the bottom of the seventh, struck out while Ray Ray Babauta singled for the tying run.

Agulto also singled and stole second base. Celis then found a gap near right center field for the game-winning run.



The Enforcers' Franklin Lizama looks on after being struck out in their game against the Red Sox on Saturday. Against the Braves on Sunday, Lizama went 3-for-3 with two runs scored.

Falcons 25, Twins 0

Kyle Kapileo tossed a complete game no-hitter in the Falcons' shutout win over fellow northern squad the As Matuis Twins. He struck out nine and walked four batters he faced.

Aven Evangelista, Zach

Reyes, and Keoni Serrano each homered for the Falcons, who scored 18 runs in the third to quickly end the game.

Evangelista was a triple short of hitting the cycle with a 3-for-4 batting with three runs, a double and single, and three RBIs

while Reyes went 4-for-4 with three runs, a double, and five RBIs. Serrano had a two-run shot in the first inning.

Red Sox 20, IT&E Comets 4

Devon Pangelinan went perfect at the plate while Kiana Aldan drove in three runs for the Red Sox.

Pangelinan went 3-for-3 with two runs and two doubles while Aldan, who struck out in the first, scored twice and had a double. Shane Mallens had a double and a triple with two runs and an RBI in a 2-for-4 batting.

Pangelinan pitched 2.1 innings surrendering four earned runs on four hits with strikeout and three walks.

Aldan came in the top of the third with Terrance Chargar up to bat and retired the Comets center fielder and Forest Pangelinan.

SENIOR Enforcers 8, Braves 0

Over at the Francisco M. "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field, Virgil Secharmidal tossed a four-hit shutout win where he fanned nine and walked one. He then went 3-for-4, all singles,

while scoring twice in the game.

Franklin Lizama crossed home plate two times in a perfect 3-for-3 appearance, while Ethan Babauta had a double going 2-for-3. J.J. Chong went 2-for-4 with one run and two RBIs.

Three-cornered fight for Ladies crown



Two Sand Juvy-backed teams are in contention for the Ladies Division title in the Bud Light-Saipan Electronic Darts Association 2015 Winter/Spring season held last week in various bars on the island.

The Vicious Darties are still on top with a 56-49 record after escaping with an 8-7 decision over sister-team Try Luck, who dropped to a tie with the Jokers Kitty Kats from second to third places with 55-50 slates, respectively.

With the score tied at 7-7, Sally Aguon, Mary-Lois Blaluk, Levayna Ngirablosch, and Joy M. Maratita sealed the Darties' win in the last Team 1001 event against Mae Babauta, Rita Fitial, Agnes Tereyama, and Richelle Sablan.

The Abyss Certified Pasawayz pulled off a 9-6 victory over the Kitty Kats but remain at the cellar in the four-team field with a 44-61 record.

The Ladies Division is in its final seven weeks as Week 8 was played on Monday night. Results were not yet available at press time.

Each win or loss counts and are added to the record of each team.

Masters

■ TDI Summit 15,
Scratch 'N' Sniff 2

■ Destroyers 10,
Darting Chelu's 7
■ Shoot Balut 9, Pythons 8

A Division

■ Mafia 11, Proofer 6
■ Sakude 11, No Fear 6
■ Voyagers 11, Warriors 6
■ Ridin' Darry 10,
Huntlaw 7
■ Predators 9, Snipers 8

Tuesday B

■ Atarashi Boys 9,
Like It Or Not 6
■ Pasaways 9, Dartaholics 6
■ Titans 9, Dabarkadz 6

Thursday B

■ Latte Sparts 12, Sunrisers 3
■ 80 Proofer 9, Preba Darts 6
■ Dragon Warriors 8,
Mixblood Shooters 7
■ Warriors 8, Fearless 7

Flame Tree B

■ Ridin' Darry 12, Real Deal 3
■ Kyodai 10, Na'Gupu 5
■ Serial Killaz 10, Snipers 5
■ No Fear 8, One Shot 7

Chichirika C

■ Darty Flight 9, DNA Jump It 6
■ Tokers 8, Blue Koi's 7

Kingfisher C

■ Spartans 10, Dart Knights 5
■ Hafa Mas 9, Chagi Fan 6
■ Sea-Ricks 9, High Flyers 6

(Jon Perez)

Blue Haus crushes Graphics/Star 6

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Blue Haus is still flawless in the Masters division of the 2015 United Filipino Organization Basketball League following an 84-48 thrashing of Graphics/Star 6 BBQ last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Blue Haus notched its third win in as many games to remain on top of the team standings in the six-squad field, while Graphics/Star 6 is at the cellar with its 0-6 record.

Edsel Mendoza top-scored in Blue Haus' lopsided win, firing 23 points. He led Blue Haus' breakaway in the third period, posting 10 of his total points in that canto to lift his team to a commanding 68-38 advantage. Mendoza and company exploded for 30 points in the third quarter, 2 more than Graphics/Star 6's total output in the first two periods to pull away further, as the losing squad were held to 10 points in the pivotal frame.

Graphics/Star 6, which was still in the game at halftime facing a manageable 10-point deficit, 28-38, made only four field goals in the third canto and had

no player scoring more than one field goal in that meltdown.

Graphics/Star 6's lackluster offense continued in the fourth quarter, as it was limited to another 10-point production, allowing Blue Haus to keep the big winning margin. Blue Haus slowed down in the final frame with the win already in the bag, but still outgunned Graphics/Star 6, 18-10.

Ernie Moises backed up Mendoza with his 16 points, while Junar Guiab also finished in twin digits with his 15 markers. All but one of the remaining Blue Haus scorers chipped in at least 4 points each to hand Graphics/Star 6 its third straight loss.

Ariel Abadilla was the lone double figure scorer for Graph-

ics/Star 6, logging 12.

Meanwhile, action in the UFO caging resumes today with the Old'Aces (0-1) taking on LBT Appraisal (1-0) in the Masters game at 6:30pm. In the U20 pairing at 8pm, division leader Sonics will put their perfect record (3-0) at stake when they collide against Armatech (1-0).

Blue Haus 84 – Mendoza 23, Moises 16, Guiab 15, Diaz 7, Abuan 5, Factor 4, Palacios 4, Buenabajo 4, Patawaran 2.

Graphics/Star 6 48 – Abadilla 12, O. Ebuen 9, S. Ebuen 8, Tibayan 5, Farinas 4, Bautista 2, Garcia 2, Pablo 2, De Jesus 1.

Scoring by quarters: 22-14, 38-28, 68-38, 84-48.

BREWERS

From Page 28

of the best-of-five series, when Vince Cepeda was up to bat.

He struck out Cepeda to end the inning with the Brewers enjoying an 8-5 advantage, which the Brew Crew protected.

Three times the Falcons had runners on base and three times Secharmidal and the Brewers foiled their chances to score.

The lefty Secharmidal, in the bottom of the ninth, forced Iguel to ground out to third then fanned Juan Iguel. He hit Lizama with a pitch and ended the game when Lucio Kalen

struck out swinging.

Kaipat drove in three runs with an RBI double and had one run on a perfect 3-for-3 batting while Alepuyo, who struck out in the first, went 3-for-5 with two RBIs.

Peter Lieto, who posted a 2.57 ERA and had 11 strikeouts in the first three games, pitched 4.2 innings in the start where he gave up four runs, three earned, on seven hits with six strikeouts and two walks.

Lizama had a two-RBI triple in the fifth and an RBI double in the third going 2-for-4 with one run, while Frankie Lieto went 2-for-3 with one run and a double.

ISAIAH

From Page 28

the victor of the other semis pairing featuring the defending champion Daniel and Gideon. The second Final Four tiff is set for 8pm, while the finals match will be played this Sunday at 5:30pm after the consolation game scheduled for 3:30pm.

Isaiah, which lost to Daniel in the 3rd Genesis Cup championship game a few years ago, moved one win away from a return trip to the finals as it eliminated Jeremiah. The third-ranked

Isaiah played better in the second half to cruise to victory.

Ahead by only 9 at halftime, 39-29, Isaiah banked on Marlon Ibanez, Fred Fatialofa, and Walter Brillo in the second half en route to its 18-point winning margin. The trio combined for 25 of Isaiah's 37 points in the last 20 minutes of play with the lefty Ibanez drilling 12, a big improvement from his 5-point output in the first half. Fatialofa was consistent all throughout the game, contributing 6 in the second half after making 7 in the first,

OMECHELANG

From Page 28

enth after tallying 636 pinfalls. Bowlers are allowed to compete on both days, but only the higher score is counted.

Omechelang snapped Camacho's streak, as the former was the lone participant in the women's field to score at least 707 pinfalls. Omechelang, who was ranked fifth in Day 1 with her 555 pinfalls, started slow in Day 2 with her 130 in Game 1 and went on a seesaw in the next two, recording 196 and 179 before finishing strong with her 202 in Game 4.

Before logging her best

while Brillo also picked up where he left off, chipping in 7 in the final frame to add with his 8 in the opening half.

Oliver Gragasin was the fourth Isaiah player to hit double figures, tallying 10, while his three other teammates combined for 8 in the second-half domination.

While Isaiah had less problems scoring, it was a different story for Jeremiah, which failed to get its offensive game going after committing several turnovers. Only Jay Nunag and Ramsa Tenepere finished

score in the four-game roll-off, Omechelang was ahead by only five pinfalls, 505-500, against eventual runner-up and Diana's daughter Carrie. Carrie improved in every game with her 148, 172, 180, and 195, to end up with the second-best 695 pinfalls. Yho Villavicencio rounded out the Top 3 after nailing 680 pinfalls (162, 154, 192, and 172).

Eight other female bowlers joined the weekend roll-offs with Janice Camacho (657) placing fourth, followed by Elena Soll (654), Ron Cal (638), Tess Fabie (620), Anna Kim (598), Lala Taitano (583), January winner Diana Chong (531), and Marie Candado (528).

in double figures for Jeremiah with 19 and 18, respectively. The three other scorers on the team in the second half combined for only three field goals and 9 points.

In the second game, Caleb also poured in points in the second half to oust Joshua.

Caleb led by as much as 31 points early in the final half, 75-44, before it let its guard down a bit past the halfway mark of the second frame, allowing Joshua to score garbage points.

Michael Cabanas paced Caleb with his 25 points, while

Two in a row for Talavera

In the King of the Lanes, Robert Talavera bagged his second straight win, duplicating the feat of January and February champion Raymond Angeles.

The March winner secured another victory after his solid performance in the last two games in Day 1 where he knocked down 200-plus pins (210 and 211). He posted 185 and 184 in Games 1 and 2 to earn 790 for an average of 197.50.

Raul Dumapit also had two 200-plus pinfall games (211 and 208 in the first two) last Saturday, but failed to keep his momentum, recording only 165 and 189 in the last two to settle

for the runner-up honors with his 773 total and 193.25 average.

Angeles completed the Top 3 with his 771 pinfalls and 192.75 average in Day 1. The two-time winner was a bit inconsistent last Sunday, starting the final roll-off with 213 pinfalls and logging 171, 164, and 223 in the last three.

Other bowlers who join the April tournament were Lito Teodoro (705), Paul Pangelinan (697), Percy Omechelang (688), Ronald Batac (685), Ramir De Leon (675), Edgar Abalos (667), Ariel Dumapit (661), Tony Verdager (648), Bernard Paraiso (645), Simon Manacop (618), Tito Corpuz (588), and Raphael Zapanta (582).

De Leon 6, Puno 4, Arroyo 4, Cortez 4, Dalusung 2.

Jeremiah 57 – Nunag 19, Tenepere 18, Rabago 8, Lansangan 6, Lizardo 4, Casuncad 2.

Scoring by halves: 38-29, 75-57.

Second Game

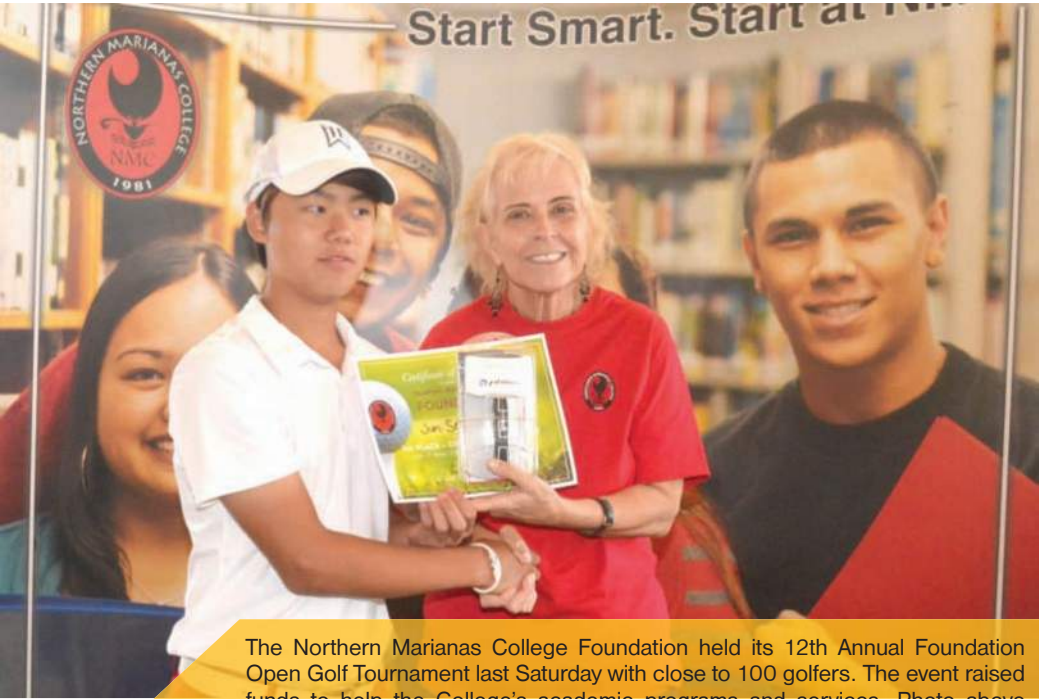
Caleb 90 – Cabanas 25, Borromeo 20, Gatdula 14, Bacani 8, Ocanada 8, Morales 7, Castro 4, Huddleston 2, Gozon 2.

Joshua 73 – Abe 20, Isip 18, Eugenio 13, Esquito 8, Gonzales 8, Sayas 6.

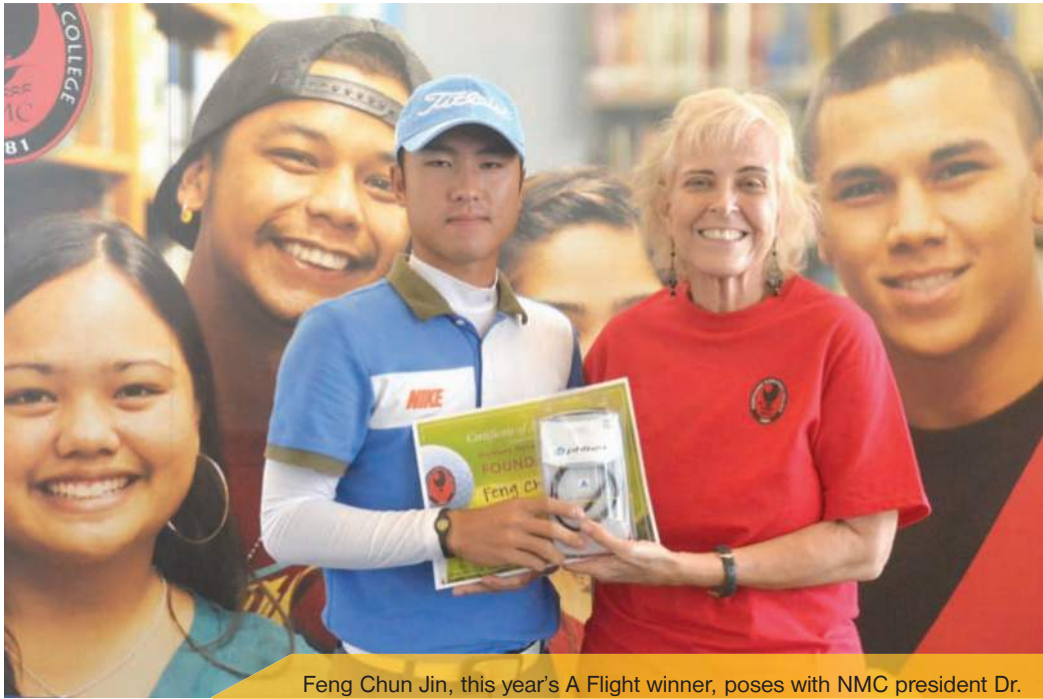
Scoring by halves: 47-31, 90-73.

12th Annual NMC Golf Tournament

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



The Northern Marianas College Foundation held its 12th Annual Foundation Open Golf Tournament last Saturday with close to 100 golfers. The event raised funds to help the College's academic programs and services. Photo above shows this year's Championship Flight winner, Jun Seok Kim, receiving his award from NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart.



Feng Chun Jin, this year's A Flight winner, poses with NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart as he receives his award.



Participants stand by their carts before the start of the event.



Participants of this year's NMC golf tournament gather for a photo before the shot gun start.



Golfers gather for a quick photo during the tournament.



Young Lee, this year's B Flight winner, poses with NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart as he receives his award.



Greg Sablan, this year's C Flight winner, poses with NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart as he receives his award.



Young Sook Kwon, this year's Ladies Flight winner, poses with NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart as she receives her award.



Toshuyuki Mori, this year's Senior Flight winner, poses with NMC president Dr. Sharon Hart as he receives his award.



Fred Camacho, left, and Juan Babauta, right, smile for a quick photo before the tournament began.



Golfers pose with the Marianas Insurance Company banner. Marianas Insurance sponsored \$10,000 as a hole-in-one prize.



Golfers take a photo with the Pacifica Insurance banner.

Warriors beat Pelicans 97-87 to take 2-0 series lead

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Celis walk-off single lifts Kagboys

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28 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Brewers rally in 6th to force decider



By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Lancaster Secharmidal pitched five innings in relief and the GSM Brewers rallied in the sixth to pull off an 8-5 win over the Falcons to force a deciding Game 5 in the 2015 Saipan Baseball League finals on Monday night at the Francisco M. "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.



The Brewers, with their backs against the wall, trailed by one after five innings but scored four runs in the top of the sixth, then relied on Secharmidal's steady pitching and their defense for the Game 4 win.

Game 5 will be played at 7pm tonight.

Secharmidal surrendered four runs, three earned, on four hits while striking out four and walking none. Lenny Sablan started for the Brewers allowing the Falcons to one earned run on four hits and retired one and had two walks.

The Falcons made four runs in the bottom of the fifth to take a 5-4 lead, but failed to score after that as Secharmidal shut them down.

Then, it was the Brewers' turn to cross home plate

four times.

Roy Celis led off with a single, while Jesse Brel followed with another single with both of them scoring on a Jun Ra-

bauliman sacrifice fly. Tyrone Omar had an infield fly for the second out.

Lamarc Iguel walked Nokki Saralu while Manny Sablan got on base on a fielding error by Falcons second baseman Peter Lieto. Saralu scored on a Byron Kaipat single then Sablan followed on another single by Pat Alepuyo.

Falcons team manager Doru Camacho then brought in A. J. Lizama, who has struck out 10 and has a 2.45 ERA in 11 innings in the first three games

See BREWERS on Page 26

Isaiah, Caleb march into semis

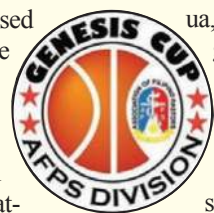
By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Isaiah and Caleb eased their way into the semifinals of the 4th Genesis Cup Christian Churches Inter-Color Basketball League after dominating their respective playoff foes last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Isaiah clinched the third semis berth after downing

Jeremiah in the curtain-raiser, 75-57, while Caleb earned a similar easy victory over Joshua, 90-73, in the second game to punch the last Final Four ticket. With their identical wins, Isaiah and Caleb forced a semis showdown this Friday at 6:30pm with the winner advancing to the finals against

See ISAIAH on Page 26



Caleb's Michael Cabanas drives against Joshua's Darwin Gonzales during the second half of their playoff game in the 4th Genesis Cup last Monday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Omechelang gets first win of season

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Gloria Omechelang earned her first victory of the season after topping the Saipan Bowling Association/Budweiser Queen of the Lanes Tournament held over the weekend at the Saipan Bowling Center.

The veteran kegler joined both days of the monthly roll-offs and showed a better form last Sunday with her four-game total of 707 pinfalls to prevent Day 1 leader Diana Camacho from ruling the Queen of the Lanes event for the third straight time. Diana Camacho,

who prevailed in the February and March competitions, took the lead last Saturday and boosted her chances for another monthly plum after collecting 619 pinfalls. The back-to-back winner also participated in the Sunday roll-off, but came up short, dropping to sev-

See OMECHELANG on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Robert Talavera, left, and Gloria Omechelang pose for a photo during the awards ceremony for the SBA/Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes' April roll-offs last Sunday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

